



M6 SINGER

Hitting the right note for food bank



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NEW ROLE

Maureen in classic comedy at The Rep



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Groups in opposition to EDL's protest

MORE than 100 people have signed a 'unity statement' calling upon the English Defence League (EDL) to stay away from Dudley.

Among those who have pledged their opposition to the EDL's protest are Dudley North Labour MP Ian Austin and Stourbridge Tory MP Margot James.

Others include The Rev Andrew Wickens from Top Church and Imam Hashmi from Dudley Central Mosque along with Dudley Council leader Pato Lowe.

It comes after Black Country Unite Against Fascism (UAF) announced it was organising a counter-demonstration in response to the EDL's planned march on the town centre on Saturday, February 7.

More than 700 supporters of the EDL are expected to show up in protest at a new mosque planned by Dudley Muslim Association.

The UAF says its members will assemble in Stone Street Square from 11am, and remain positioned in the town centre until the EDL leaves. It has the support of Dudley Trades Union Council and the Muslim community.

Statement signatories are 'deeply concerned' over the EDL Dudley demo, particularly after similar protests turned violent.

Go-ahead for teaching hub

PLANS for a £1.6 million education centre for young people with learning difficulties has been given the green light on the site of the old Pensnett High School.

A £1m grant has been secured towards the project, which includes demolishing former buildings on the site, including the main school building that fronts Tield House Lane.

The centre will be created by refurbishing one of the remaining buildings and run by Pens Meadow Special School.

MOVE TO FREEZE COUNCIL RENTS

FREEZING council house rent will help families in 'difficult times', says the leader of Dudley Council.

The average weekly rent for the borough's 23,000 tenants will remain at £82.54 under the plans, which go before the council's cabinet next month.

It comes despite the council needing to make cuts of £27 million over the next year and facing a further short-fall of £30,000.

Councillor Lowe said the council wanted to ease the burden on families who have been struggling to make ends meet.

"We will continue to look after the interests of the people we serve as we know local people have experienced difficult times," he said.

"We have no intention to increase housing rents, in the same way that we are also proposing to freeze council tax levels for everyone for another year, which will keep our council tax as the lowest in the West Midlands."

Welcomed

Councillor Gaye Partridge, cabinet member for housing, added: "We have now reported to the Take Control Housing Board our clear recommendation that will go before a meeting of the cabinet to keep housing rents as they are."

"We have 23,000 housing tenants and we know this will be welcomed by thousands of hard working people across the borough."

It's the first time council house rent has been frozen in more than ten years.

The plans will go before the cabinet's meeting on February 11.

The move goes against a

By Heather Large

formula which calculates that the council could increase rents by up to three per cent.

In a bid to cut costs, the council is proposing savings of £22.9m for 2015/16, moving up to £25.3m by 2016/17 and £27.4m by 2017/18. But the council has warned it faces a deficit of approaching £30m by 2017/18 if additional savings are not found.

The budget proposals so far include a shake-up of Dudley youth services to save £200,000. There are also plans to increase burial fees, expected to bring in £520,000 in the next three years.

Savings will also be made by transferring the management of the New Bradley Hall care home in Kingswinford to a private firm.

Other cost-cutting proposals include plans to turn off some street lights after midnight, saving £100,000 by 2018.

A public consultation was launched at the end of last year giving people the chance to have their say on the services which matter most to them.

Residents have been asked to name their top five council services that they think are most important.

The consultation continues until Sunday.

Curry nights to raise funds for life-saver



Hot stuff — football club charity trustee Lynn Boleyn with restaurant owner Joe Uddin in the kitchen at Alam International

CHARITY curry nights will take place to raise funds for a potentially life-saving defibrillator.

Wall Heath football club Kewford Eagles will be holding events at the end of the month at the Alam International Restaurant in Albion Parade. Each night there will be two separate sittings and it is hoped this will raise enough money to buy the equipment that could save a heart attack victim.

Lynn Boleyn, charity trustee of Kewford Eagles, said: "When footballer Fabrice Muamba had his heart attack a defibrillator was there and saved his life. There have been inci-

dents more recently, including one where a 15-year-old girl was playing football and died. These incidents really bring it home.

"It is really important we have one because there are so many teams. It is not just the players but also the spectators, mums, dads and grandparents."

Ground

Kewford Eagles has around 550 children aged from six to 18. There are 45 teams for boys, girls and youngsters with disabilities. At the start of the season the club moved to a new home ground at Eagle Park off Swin-

don Road, opened by former England player and FA director of football development, Sir Trevor Brooking CBE.

Miss Boleyn added: "We are extremely grateful to Joe Uddin and Alan Emery at The Alam for their generosity in giving something back to the community, helping us to raise funds for a defibrillator at Eagle Park. Hopefully it will be something we will never have to use but gives peace of mind."

There will be two sittings on both Monday and Tuesday, at 6pm and 9pm. Tickets cost £5. Phone the restaurant on (01384) 401122 or the club on (01384) 830862.

Fear that taxi move would hit business

A TAXI drivers' group fear their business will be hit if councillors bring in a ban on booking agents operating outside town centre venues.

Some private hire taxi firms in Dudley have been employing the agents, who stand outside pubs and clubs. But police say the practice cannot continue and rivalry between two firms has sparked a criminal investigation.

The agents are not allowed to 'tout' for business by approaching potential customers, the customers must approach them. But other firms and some hackney carriage drivers claim the move puts them at a disadvantage and have urged Dudley Council to intervene.

At last week's taxi committee council officers tabled options to ban the practice in Dudley town centre or right across the borough.

Dudley Private Hire and Taxi Association chairman Shaz Saleem urged the committee to think again. He said: "Businesses are struggling out there. They are thinking of new initiatives to take their business forward. This is one of these initiatives."

Superintendent Andy Parsons, of Dudley Police, said there had been 'friction' between rival firms.

The committee voted to defer their decision.

Move to axe hospital jobs

RUSSELLS Hall Hospital in Dudley is holding talks with staff about cutting 400 jobs over the next two years to save £14 million.

Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, which runs the hospital, employs 4,500 people and has opened a two-phased redundancy plan in a bid to cut staff numbers.

Bosses say midwives, ward and community nurses are safe. The trust says compulsory redundancies would be a last resort.



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CONTACT US

Have you got a story or an event you want covered? The Chronicle and Express & Star have a team of reporters covering Dudley who can help:
Heather Large: 01384 353203
heather.large@expressandstar.co.uk
Alex Ross: 01384 353207
alex-ross@expressandstar.co.uk
Andrew Turton: 01384 353202
andrew.turton@expressandstar.co.uk
Lee Watton: 01384 353230
lee.watton@expressandstar.co.uk
Charlie Benton: 01384 353201
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Sports:
 Tel: 01902 319453. e-mail: **chron.sport@expressandstar.co.uk**

Photographic
 Tel: John Sambrooks 01902 319431

Advertising
Emma Parkes
 Tel: 01384 353234
 E-mail: **e.parkes@expressandstar.co.uk**

Motoring:
Liz Barratt
 Tel: 01384 353244
 E-mail: **liz.barratt@expressandstar.co.uk**

Distribution:
Paul Jones
 Tel: 01902 319990
 E-mail: **p.jones@expressandstar.co.uk**



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College wins praise after review

THE agency which monitors higher education in the UK has praised Dudley College in a report following a review last year.

The Quality Assurance Agency is similar to Ofsted and investigates and accredits the quality and standards of learning at higher education centres.

The agency judged that the college does meet UK expectations

in terms of quality, standards and learning opportunities.

Several examples of good practice were highlighted in the report, including the responsiveness of staff to issues raised by students as well as the quality of screening for all potential applicants.

But there were some concerns over student learning opportunities and the quality of information

about the opportunities the college offers.

The college has appealed some of the negative findings but said it will work with the agency to improve areas of concern.

Support

College principal Lowell Williams said: "We are delighted the review team found that the college's higher

education students receive a level of support which provides them with the opportunity to fulfil their potential, and that the college's commitment to its students and its region is beyond question.

"This outcome accords with the results of the 2014 National Student Survey which placed Dudley College in the top 10 of all higher education providers in the UK."

Shock at attacks on ambulance personnel

A EURO MP and Dudley councillor has spoken of his shock at the verbal and physical abuse being endured by ambulance personnel.

He is calling for more respect to be shown to medical staff following 'unacceptable' numbers of assaults on emergency workers, revealed by figures.

Between June 1, 2014, and December 31, 2014, 46 frontline staff were physically assaulted in Birmingham, 31 in the Black Country, 14 in Coventry and Warwickshire, 15 in Staffordshire and 13 in West Mercia.

The figures also reveal, for the same period, that 48 frontline staff were verbally abused in Birmingham while 61 suffered the same abuse in the Black Country, 21 in Coventry and Warwickshire, 40 in Staffordshire and 39 in West Mercia.

Councillor's bid to create bloom town

PLANS are under way to launch the first Amblecote in Bloom this year.

The project is the brainchild of Councillor Christine Perks who has already started to form a Friends of Amblecote team to take the initiative forward.

Councillor Perks said she is hoping that more local people will get involved, adding: "Following the success of Halesowen and Stourbridge in Bloom, I thought it would be a great idea if we could do something even more local and Amblecote is the perfect place to give it a go.

"I've already approached a number of traders and organisations. People have been so enthusiastic about it that I'm quite overwhelmed by the support. I am hoping that we can get funding from a number of sources, including local sponsors, and that we will have the High Street and Brette Lane full of hanging baskets throughout the summer.

"Ideally Amblecote will be in full bloom by July when again communities will come together to celebrate Black Country Day."

Contact her by email at **cllr.christine.perks@dudleymbc.org.uk**

Angels

West Midlands MEP Councillor Bill Etheridge said: "Ambulance staff, and indeed all emergency services' staff, are angels of mercy who rescue and care for members of the public. They save lives.

"Our emergency services are vital to all of us and we can be immensely proud of what a tremendous job they do under tremendous pressure.

"These figures are shocking and I call of members of the public to respect those working in the emergency services.

"Anyone found to verbally or physically abuse frontline emergency services staff should be dealt with firmly by the law."

Figures released by West Midlands police show that in the force's area, between January 1, 2011, and October 31, 2014, 165 paramedics or ambulance workers were assaulted while performing their duties.

Tommy time travel at museum



Warwick Military Re-enactment group at the Black Country Museum, Dudley

IT'S January 1915 and troops from the Royal Warwickshire Regiment are in training as they prepare to join the frontline in France. This was the scene that greeted visitors to the Black Country Living Museum as they were taken back to the First World War.

Military re-enactment group The Warwicks marched around the canalside village carrying out machine gun drills and hand grenade training displays.

The First World War themed weekend was part of the museum's programme of

events to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the start of the conflict.

Demonstrations took place to portray the 1915 training days of soldiers preparing to reinforce their comrades in France.

Chairman of The Warwicks and platoon sergeant Sean Featherstone said it was a successful weekend. "Our aim is to portray the Royal Warwickshire Regiment soldier from 1914 to 1918. We set the weekend in January 1915 and showed the infantry training that would have taken place as they prepared to go to France."

Labour MP vow on 'bedroom tax' axe

LABOUR'S shadow work and pension's secretary told carers of disabled people that abolishing the so-called 'bedroom tax' would be her first job if the party wins the General Election.

Leeds West MP Rachel Reeves was making her second visit to Dudley in as many weeks. She went knocking doors with the party's candidate in Dudley South, Natasha Millward, and said scrapping the cut in housing benefit for people in council or social housing with one or more spare rooms was the top priority.

Miss Reeves said: "I heard some terrible stories from people who are having to pay more because of this. It is saving nothing like what the Government said it would. There are couples who for medical reasons are having to sleep in separate rooms but are treated as having a spare bedroom."

The move was brought in to convince people to trade down to smaller properties and free larger homes for families. Miss Reeves added: "There simply aren't the homes available for people to move to. What we need to see is 200,000 new homes a year built to include affordable and social housing. That's how we get waiting lists down."

Charity variety night at hotel

A BOSTIN' Black Country Variety Show is being staged at a Dudley hotel to raise funds for Compton Hospice.

The line up on February 27 at 7.30pm will include trio The Empty Can, Dudley comedian Wayne Beese and poet Steve Bartley.

Tickets for the show at the Station Hotel, Castle Hill, cost £12 on 01902 774548 or £15 on the door. The Empty Can, who released I Vow to Thee Black Country Day, release new single Last Train Out of Wolverhampton on February 2.

New care jobs

A COMPANY which provides home care in Dudley is to create 40 new jobs.

Home Instead Senior Care is to launch a recruitment drive in order to meet growing demand.

Most of the positions will be part-time and will also include office roles.

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Motorist moves give residents the hump

MOTORISTS are 'hurling' down side streets in a bid to avoid speed bumps on a route through Sedgley putting residents in danger, says a councillor.

People living near Bath Street say wing mirrors have been clipped and crossing the road has become more hazardous due to an increase in traffic.

Sedgley councillor Bill Etheridge, who is also a UKIP Euro MP, is calling for action to be taken, such as enforcing a 20mph speed limit in side streets or putting in more humps.

Dudley Council said it would launch an investigation to discover whether more traffic calming measures are necessary.

Views

It is believed motorists are currently using side streets to avoid the traffic slowing speed bumps in Bath Street.

Councillor Etheridge has sent out 250 questionnaires to get residents' views. He said: "I call upon the council to do a detailed investigation into the possibilities of speed humps or a 20mph speed limit. My initial conversations with residents show there is an issue of safety here. We need action to be taken before somebody is badly hurt or worse."

Bin blocker parking plea

A PLEA has been issued to motorists on a Wordsley estate to park sensibly after cars blocked access for bin wagons.

Rubbish had been left piled up outside homes in Marshall Crescent after refuse workers were blocked by cars. There are fears that emergency vehicles could also be hampered.

The bins have now been cleared but there are concerns the problem will happen again. Wordsley councillor Paul Brothwood said he would be speaking to residents and council bosses to try to find a solution.

Trailer arson fear

A FIRE which destroyed a horse trailer is being blamed on arsonists.

Ten firefighters tackled the blaze in a field in Greensforge Lane, near Stourton, on Monday around 7.30am.

The fire is thought to have been started deliberately.

Music duo aiming for more success in contest



Duo Brett Huckfield and Marie Timmins

TWO musicians representing the Black Country have made it to the finals of the national Open Mic competition.

Brett Huckfield, aged 46, of Oldbury, and Marie Timmins, 37, from Pensnett, won both the area and regional heats of the competition and aiming to win the final at the NEC on Saturday.

The pair, who have been performing professionally together for 12 months, they feel the Black Country is under-represented on the national stage and want to change that.

Brett, a guitar teacher by trade, said:

"We sailed through the first rounds and have had so many fantastic comments from judges and the audiences."

The duo play everything from blues to pop with Brett on lead vocals and guitar with Marie playing percussion.

Songwriter Brett said: "Somebody told me I should be singing the songs myself instead of selling them to somebody else, so I took their advice and started performing."

"I was about to move to America to perform but my father got ill and I stayed to care for him. "Me and Marie originally met several years ago at the Modern Music guitar shop, although we only recently started performing together professionally as we fell out of touch."

"We heard about this competition and tried out. We did not think we were going to be so successful."

The duo are now the favourites to win the national final. Mr Huckfield said they were doing it for the Black Country.

"There are so many talented people in the Black Country but you just don't hear about them," he added. "This is us kicking down the door and showing them what we can do."

Residents are concerned over future of post office

RESIDENTS fear they are about to lose their local post office after staff were told it would close at the end of the month.

The News Express store in The Straits, in Gornal, which contains the post office, has already been closed by operator Dave's Discount Stores Ltd, with post office trading to cease at the end of January. Customers can currently access the office through the closed store.

School hosts festival of computers

A SCHOOL in the Black Country will become the first in the Midlands to host a national computing festival.

Three events will be held on January 30 and 31 at Pedmore Technology College and Community School. The first event, during the day on Friday called Hack to the Future, will be held for invited pupils and will include workshops on Raspberry Pi, Minecraft, Python and Meet the Geek.

A Friday evening session will invite families from the community to compete in the family 'Hack Jam', a basic introduction to problem solving using computing tools. Teams will then need to collaborate using their new skills.

The final event will take place on Saturday, January 31, and is an open invitation to anyone with an interest in computing to join in. From 10.30am to 3.30pm various workshops, demonstrations, talks and exhibitions will be taking place.

For more information or to register visit www.pedmoretc.dudley.sch.uk

Dudley North MP Ian Austin and councillors in Gornal are now seeking assurances that the service will continue to be delivered in the area.

Shop workers at News Express were informed they would be losing their jobs before it closed last week, while those manning the post office learned they would also be made redundant.

Mile

The closure will mean the nearest post office will be nearly a mile away in Louise Street, Gornal Wood, causing concern for some elderly residents.

Mr Austin said it was the Post Office's duty to ensure 90 per cent of people are within a mile of their nearest service.

He said: "We have already been in touch with lots of people on The Straits who are concerned that their post office could be closed for some time. We're urging the Post Office to keep the branch open."

Post Office spokeswoman Kathryn Hollingsworth said: "The postmaster at The Straits has expressed an interest in leaving and we are currently looking for a new operator. Customers should be assured that the Post Office is committed to maintaining a service to local customers"

Vie sings for other folks' suppers



Food glorious food — singer and teacher Vie Watson, from Sedgley, helped the food bank to the tune of £350

A FOOD bank has received a bumper donation after a singer from Sedgley held an impromptu show at a service station on the M6 Toll.

Big-hearted Vie Watson collected £350 in little over an hour during a performance at the service station at Norton Canes.

The mother-of-two, who is a professional singer and part-time teacher, has presented the money to the Black Country Food Bank, following the collection on Christmas Eve.

She said: "I have always been a champion of the food bank and I have seen first hand from some of my pupils and their families how it impacts lives."

Bucket

"So I thought what can I do to help raise money for the cause? I thought 'I can sing' so I got a bucket and sang for an hour and a half at the services on the M6 toll."

Motorists stopping off at the services gave generously to Mrs Watson,

who sang traditional hymns, jazz and something for the youngsters.

"Passers-by were very generous," she said. "They particularly liked Let it Go from Disney film Frozen."

"I am truly humbled by their generosity. It didn't cost me anything, just the petrol of getting to the services."

Mrs Watson, who teaches part-time at schools in Dudley and runs a choir in Wolverhampton, visits Calvary Church in Kingswinford, which is involved with the food bank.

Ideas and views on future of town

A CONSULTATION on plans to boost Dudley town centre has been launched.

Residents and businesses are being asked for views to help shape regeneration projects.

Multi-million pound schemes are being drawn up to bring more tourists and shoppers back to the town centre. It includes a £20 million Very Light Rail line and research hub to be built near the old Dudley railway station and to connect with the main line at Dudley Port.

The Dudley Area Action Plan aims to guide new investment up to 2026.

Kitchens revamp across boroughs

A £1.4 million project to refurbish homes across Dudley and Sandwell has been completed

Outdated kitchens at 500 properties have been replaced by Wates Living Space and the Black Country Housing Group.

Work on the revamp programme has been carried out during the past five years. Jackie O'Callaghan, head of property services at Black Country Housing Group, said: "We have an ongoing programme of improvements."

Jobs fair at army reserve centre

A BLACK Country Jobs and Careers Fair is being held in Dudley today (Thursday).

The event, which will feature up to 25 local and national employers, is taking place in Dudley Army Reserve Centre in Vicar Street from 10am to 3pm.

There will also be Armed Forces recruiters taking part.

To find out more call (01384) 230166.

Drama double bill at the Glasshouse

EVA McIntyre of Greenblade Theatre will perform Mind Your Head and Pericles Theatre stage Woman on February 6 in a double bill of drama at Amblecote.

The performances from 7.30pm explore the impact of religion and the lives of heroic women. They are at Glasshouse Arts Centre in Wollaston Road. For tickets call (01384) 399430.

New council chief

THE new chief executive of Dudley Council has begun work after taking over the £165,000 a year role. Sarah Norman, 52, replaces John Polychonakis who stepped down after almost 40 years in local government.

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



CARE to guess what happened when an American man surprised his wife with breakfast in bed, accidentally setting off the burglar alarm at their North Carolina home? No prizes. Tiffany Segule, 27, shot him through the closed bedroom door. Thankfully, he was not seriously hurt. So that's Eggs American-style. Sunny side up with extra lead.

THIS week University College London claimed that by the year 2050 cancer will rarely kill anyone under 80. All I can add is that in 45 years in journalism I cannot remember a time when a cure for cancer was not just around the corner.

SORRY, folks, but after much consideration, Je ne suis pas Charlie. I will march against terrorism. I will march in sorrow and solidarity with the bereaved. I will march in rage and despair at the premeditated slaughter of fellow journalists. But I will not march to defend the absolute right to freedom of expression. There is no such right, and nor should there be.

AS the death of Sir Jack Hayward was announced, Julia Bradbury was exploring Brunel's magnificent Victorian steam ship SS Great Britain in The Wonder of Britain (ITV). Pity she didn't explain why the ship is displayed in glory in Bristol rather than rotting away in the Falkland Islands, as it was for many sorry years. SS Great Britain was saved solely because in 1970 Sir Jack personally paid £150,000 for the hulk to be towed 8,000 miles back to Bristol. Didn't that deserve just a little mention?

DIDN'T Tony Blair look old, ragged and in need of a decent night's sleep during his appearance before a Common committee? Maybe he's worried about the soon-to-be-published Chilcot inquiry (11 bloody years after the event) into the 2003 invasion of Iraq. Don't you hope so?



MEANWHILE, Fiona Bruce breathlessly assures us on BBC News that France's decision to put 15,000 squaddies on the streets is "the biggest ever deployment of troops in France." Does nobody do history any more?

FILMING begins this month for the second series of W1A, the wonderful satire on life, work and corporate-cobbler-speak at the BBC. But how do you satirise something as inherently strange as the Beeb? This week Director-General Tony Hall declared that the corporation was "stuck in an analogue cul-de-sac". Now who wrote that? Was it his own speech writers or the script writers for W1A, going forward?

THERE are many ways of recognising a cultured man. Left alone with a tea cosy, the cultured man will not use it as a hat. The cultured man can hold a sink plunger without feeling obliged to do Dalek impressions. He can hear the William Tell overture without thinking of the Lone Ranger. And as this week's storms descended, a truly cultured man can hear the phrase "yellow snow warning" without sniggering. Yet again, I fail the test.

AM I missing something? Ed Miliband is castigated for "weaponising" the NHS to use it to batter the Tories, and seems determined to refute the allegation. But can anyone remember an election campaign when the NHS was not a weapon in the armoury? The important thing, as Tony Blair discovered during that memorable slagging-off by no-nonsense Brummie Sharon Storer in a 2001 hospital visit ("All you do is walk around and make yourself known but you don't do anything to help anybody.") is to remember the NHS is double-edged and can cut both ways. It is a high-risk weapon for any politician to wield, especially one who can't even cope with a bacon sandwich.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Man got £20k benefits while working

A MAN who claimed he could barely walk worked 10 hours a day in a butchers shop for seven years while pocketing over £20,000 incapacity living allowance.

Carl Pearce, of Dingle View, Sedgley, filled in a self-assessment form for benefits in February 2003 but three years later was fit enough to secretly start his job, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

"He stated that he was unable or virtually unable to walk but his circumstances changed in January 2006 when he commenced employment at the butcher's shop," said Mr Duncan Craig, prosecuting.

Tip

Seven years later the Department of Work and Pensions launched an investigation after a tip-off that

Pearce was behind the counter at Melvin's Butchers in Market Place, Cannock. "It was discovered that he had been working there five days a week, ten hours a day, since January 2006," continued Mr Craig.

Miss Alisha Harris, defending, claimed that he suffered from a 'cat-alogue' of different complaints but had been able to manage the pain through medication.

He pleaded guilty to illegally receiving a total of £20,178 in incapacity living allowance between January 4, 2006, and December 31, 2013, by failing to notify a change in circumstance.

He was given a six month jail sentence suspended for two years. He was also ordered to do 60 hours unpaid work. He has started to repay the money that he wrongly claimed.

PM points to jobs in the Black Country

PRIME Minister David Cameron has said falling unemployment rates under his Government are evident in the Black Country.

Mr Cameron said the recovery was 'gathering pace' and that more young people were being given the chance of a 'better future'.

The PM was speaking in the House of Commons after Tory MP for Halesowen and Rowley Regis James Morris asked him if we would congratulate young people in the area who had managed to secure work.

Mr Cameron said: "In his constituency, nearly 4,000 people have begun an apprenticeship since 2010 and the claimant count there is down 42 per cent since the election.

"The long-term youth claimant count—that should be of the greatest concern to us, because that is young people on unemployment benefit month after month—is down by 58 per cent in the last year alone.

"This recovery is gathering pace and is providing jobs for people, and each one of those jobs is the chance for them to provide a better future for their families. But we must stick to the plan and a key part of the plan is getting the deficit down."

Woman hurt in car crash

A WOMAN had to be cut free from her car after a crash in Stourbridge on Saturday.

She was taken to Russell's Hall Hospital in Dudley with suspected spinal injuries.

The smash involved a Vauxhall Astra and Nissan Juke at the junction of Croftwood Road and Grange Lane at around 11am.

The injured driver had to be cut free from the Nissan by firefighters. A male passenger in the car was not injured.

The male driver of the Vauxhall Astra was also not injured.

Police raid flat

CANNABIS plants have been seized by police following a raid on a flat in Great Bridge.

Police searched the property in Horton Street where they discovered plants with a street value around £6,000. A male resident was arrested.

'Fetish' club has won committee's support

A PROPOSED fetish club is a step closer to opening after being granted a licence to sell alcohol.

The boss of the proposed Valhalla Club in Dudley will now appeal a decision by Dudley Council not to give his venture planning permission.

Among the groups which would use the club in Dock Lane, opposite Dudley Leisure Centre, would be enthusiasts for erotica and fetishism with events including 'dungeon and role-play'.

Boss Clive Thomson said: "We are not the sort of people to parade onto the road in masks and hats. I think people have seen too many Hollywood films.

"Discretion is the order of the day. We would never have signs outside as we would only get idiots."

Last week a committee granted the venue a licence to sell alcohol and for live and recorded music.

Discrete

Council leaders had received a petition signed by more than 70 people raising concerns about the proposed licence but none attended to speak.

At the meeting, Mr Thomson said the club would be a place where vulnerable people can feel safe and not threatened. "We are very, very discrete people," he said. "This is not a nightclub, it is not a lap dancing club, it is just a social club. Things have been blown out of proportion.

Youth views on health

NHS chiefs have congratulated students for organising an event aimed at improving young people's health knowledge.

The #MEFESTIVAL at Pedmore Technology College attracted more than 180 children youngsters and 25 teachers.

Two of the organisers, who are also members of Dudley Youth Council, made a presentation to the borough's Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) Board about the event.

Dr David Hegarty, chairman of the CCG, said: "Everyone worked hard to create an environment where children felt comfortable to express their views."

Hire apprentices, says boss



Apprentice Nick Fletcher with Colin Parker, director of the Black Country Skills Factory

THE boss of an engineering firm in Dudley is investing in the future by employing his fifth apprentice, Stuart Chater, managing director of J Marklew Engineering in Netherton, said it annoys him when other companies 'moan' about the lack of skilled workers. He said small firms should instead be training young people.

Mr Chater has hired 18-year-old Nick Fletcher for the engineering apprenticeship, which will last a minimum of two years. Mr Fletcher will spend four days a

week as a turner at the company in Chapel Street, while also studying at colleges.

The former Hillcrest School pupil is the 100th apprentice supported by The Black Country Skills Factory, a project addressing a skills shortage in manufacturing.

Mr Chater said: "As a former apprentice myself, I am a strong supporter of apprenticeships and see the benefits they bring. "It annoys me when other companies moan about a skills shortage, why don't they hire an apprentice?"

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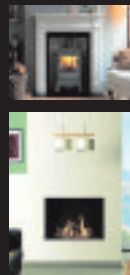
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Weather watch so residents prepare

A WEBSITE has been launched by a council to give residents updates on gritting routes, bin collections and other services that could be hit by bad weather.

Dudley Council's Weather Watch page includes gritting runs and routes and grit bin locations, along with school closures, bin collections and advice on keeping warm during the winter.

Residents will be able to get the latest updates via the council's e-bulletin, Twitter and Facebook.

Council leader Pete Lowe said: "As part of our pledge to be community council we are keeping people informed and up to date is an essential part of our work during the winter."

"The more information people have on things like roads and gritting, the better they can plan their journeys over the winter period."

The gritting team, based at the Lister Road depot, will cover almost 300 miles of roads and has stockpiles of some 6,500 tonnes of salt.

Last winter Dudley gritters went out 34 times, using a total of 2,000 tonnes of grit.

The council's weather watch page can be found at www.dudley.gov.uk

Danger road safety work

WORK has begun to make a busy road in Cradley Heath safer following accidents, including one in which a great grandfather died.

Highway chiefs decided to take action over Barrs Road after concerns were raised by councillors and residents.

The road has a history of accidents and in 2013 retired bricklayer Bernard Betts, aged 85, of Cradley Heath, was knocked down while walking his dog.

Barrs Road will be narrowed in some places.

The work is expected to be completed by the end of the month.

More visit canal

VISITOR numbers to a canal attraction increased by almost a quarter in October to December.

Dudley Canal Trust had a 23 per cent rise in visitors during the last quarter. It means the numbers are up 10 per cent across the year, more than 70,000 people.

Father and son graffiti yobs are locked up

A FATHER and son daubed graffiti outside homes after a drinking spree, a court heard.

Mark Bilsby and his son Scott Fletcher sprayed red paint on vehicles, walls and fences around Stourbridge town centre.

Hundreds of pounds of damage was caused and one of the vehicles belonged to security guard Femi Bello, who suffered from racist abuse and was punched by Bilsby.

The pair pleaded guilty to 12 counts of criminal damage and another of racially aggravated

threats and abuse with intent to cause fear of violence. Bilsby, aged 50, also accepted a count of racially aggravated common assault.

He was jailed for 20 months and Fletcher, 20, was sentenced to 10 months in a Young Offender's Institute.

Wolverhampton Crown Court was told that offensive comments were sprayed on Mr Bello's vehicle and two others, while nine walls and fences were targeted around Bell Street, Green Street and Bowling Green Road. Graffiti in-

cluded the words 'Dad' and 'Scott'. Police were called at around 8pm on July 11 last year and Fletcher was taken to hospital as he suggested he was losing consciousness. He then threatened to bite anyone who came close to him.

It was said each person targeted by the vandalism suffered between £25 to £200 worth of damage. Many were elderly residents.

Bilsby, of Nagersfield Road, Brierley Hill, had 56 previous convictions including more than 80

thefts. Fletcher, of Junction Road, Stourbridge, had five convictions including racially aggravated common assault.

Miss Amrish Parathalingham, defending Bilsby, said he was under the influence of alcohol at the time.

She added: "It is certainly no excuse for his behaviour which was abysmal."

Mr Devon Small, defending Fletcher said: "He accepts that his actions were out of order and completely unacceptable. He had been

drinking from the early afternoon. He was extremely drunk."

He added that Fletcher has been diagnosed as bi-polar and was also due to become a father.

Sentencing Bilsby, Judge Robin Onions said the actions had caused great upset.

"You sprayed the van of Mr Bello with an offensive phrase and then you went up and down the street spraying walls and fences."

"Your son is following your example and he is going to follow you into custody."

All we ever wanted in the world was to start a family

By Andrew Turton

WHAT Kate and Steve Edwards want more than anything in the world is to start a family together but a postcode lottery on fertility treatment is preventing them.

The couple, both aged 35, say they have been blocked from seeking further help through in vitro fertilisation (IVF) treatment due to the policy of one Black Country health body. While clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) across Sandwell, Walsall, Wolverhampton, Birmingham and Solihull have come together to create a single assisted conception policy which includes the funding of IVF, Dudley CCG has not signed up to this joint policy.

Mrs Edwards grew up in Dudley and her husband Steven moved to the town from Wolverhampton when they set up home together.

Mrs Edwards said: "It is ironic that if I had moved to where my husband is from then we wouldn't have faced this problem."

Mrs Edwards suffered two miscarriages and subsequent use of fertility drugs has proved unsuccessful.

Funding

Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group states if couples have been infertile for a minimum of three years they can apply for one course of IVF funding. But if a couple miscarries they deem that they can conceive naturally and therefore reset the three-year time limit.

"It has left me heartbroken as we've been through so much with fertility drugs and what we see is low quality care," said Mrs Edwards, who lives in Lower Gornal and works in marketing. The couple wed at Himley Hall in 2009.

"The first few years we really thought nothing of it. We were living our lives, we had just got married and it wasn't a big issue," she said.

But in October 2011 they decided to seek advice from their GP. Almost a year later, after Mrs Edwards went for further tests, medical experts told the couple their only option was to try IVF.



Lower Gornal couple Kate and Steve Edwards say a postcode lottery is thwarting their hopes of starting a family

"We felt devastated – no couple wants to hear that," Mrs Edwards said. "What we wanted was to try some other options first."

"It was only through talking to other women that I began to realise the disparity in care in the tests that we were being offered and also the treatment options."

Under the joint plan offered by the other West Midlands CCGs, women are entitled to further investigation possibly leading to a course of IVF, subject to criteria, after one year of infertility.

Mr and Mrs Edwards decided to seek a second opinion so they sought a private consultation and were prescribed the fertility drug Clomid. They tried it for around six months without progress.

Mrs Edwards also had a procedure after a suspected growth called a polyp was found but this was subsequently found not to be

the case. They had their NHS IVF referral in August 2013 to Midland Fertility which has its clinic in Tamworth.

But the clinic referred them back again after a polyp was suspected again. After her family paid £3,000 for a private operation, which again found no polyp, the couple were given another course of hormone treatment.

In November 2013 Mrs Edwards became pregnant only to miscarry a few months later. They tried the drugs again and were successful for a second time in becoming pregnant in March 2014.

"We were just so excited," Mrs Edwards said. But they were delivered the devastating blow that Mrs Edwards had miscarried for the second time.

"Since 2012 I can't say I've felt truly happy because of the stress and pressure.

Around 100 applications for IVF funding are received by Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group each year. Of these, around half are approved.

Officials said they are aware different CCGs apply their own criteria for deciding on funding saying some do not fund IVF at all.

In a statement the trust said: "We want to ensure that funding is not used for unnecessary treatment. We believe that sufficient time should be allowed for natural conception to occur. This is why criteria around a three-year infertility period in our current policy. "Whilst NICE provides national guidance on healthcare interventions, we need to consider local priorities and place funding into the areas of most need locally."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ready for Action Heart five mile run

HUNDREDS of runners are expected to take part in the 25th anniversary of an annual five-mile run starting at a Dudley hospital.

The Action Heart event begins at Russells Hall in Dudley on February 22 at 9.30am.

Money raised goes to the Action Heart charity, which is based at the hospital. Each year around 500 people take part in the event, which is open to runners of all abilities.

Entries cost between £11 and £13 and must be booked.

Visit www.actionheartrunning.com for details.

Medals and gold watch are stolen

SIX Second World War medals were stolen in a burglary at a house in Upper Gornal.

The medals, along with a valuable Mappin and Webb gold watch, were taken from the home in Greenhill Road on December 27 between 5.15pm and 10.30pm.

The medals had been passed down from the 67-year-old homeowner's father and had been stored in display boxes.

The burglar forced entry through the front door.

Charity darts KO pub tournament

AN Upper Gornal pub is holding a charity darts knockout tournament.

The event at the Jolly Crispin in Clarence Street on February 7 is to raise money for White House Cancer Support in Dudley.

Entry is £3 with 40 per cent of proceeds going to the charity, 40 per cent to the winner and 20 per cent to the runner up. It will be on a 501 straight start. Registration from 1pm.

20 extra parking spaces at station

TWENTY new parking spaces are to be created at Sandwell and Dudley train station.

Work was due to begin this week and last for three weeks to take the total spaces past 380. The car park will also be resurfaced.

The number of spaces available will drop while the work is carried out.

JB's remembered

THERE will be a talk on Dudley's legendary live music venue JB's by author Geoff Tristram at Dudley Library on February 14 at 1pm.

Free places can be reserved on (01384) 815560.

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews

A SIGN on the door to our print works bears the warning that 'ear protection must be worn when the presses are running'. Always one to comply with such rulings, I diligently looked through the window, saw that the presses were idle and that the hall was empty, apart from a man with a broom. Deciding that ear protection was not necessary, I ventured into the room where country and western music was playing. Definitely an earplugs day.

LOOK, I confess I am not a regular bus traveller. I occasionally hop onto one after a night out in town, or on the way back from the garage when I drop the car in for a service, but there are plenty of people better qualified to comment on their merits than myself.

But when I heard National Express's justification for hiking up its fares at a time of falling fuel prices, my jaw dropped.

Normally, they blame rising fuel costs when they put the fares up, but this year, faced with a 20 per cent fall in the cost of diesel, they have had to try a different tack. So this year the 4.8 per cent increase is justified by the fact that the company is investing in some shiny new buses to make for a more pleasant passenger experience. Drivers will also be getting some smart uniforms to add to the feeling of wellbeing.

But really, who actually gets onto a bus for the enjoyment of it? Even in the days of the much-maligned Banga buses, I don't suppose anybody saw one arrive at the bus stop and think, 'you know what, I'll wait another 20 minutes in case the next one has plusher upholstery?'

Whenever I board a bus, the main considerations are where it goes from, where it goes to, how long I will have to wait, and how quickly it will get me back. And yes, how much it costs. Because when it is £2.20 to go a couple of miles, and there's a group of you, a taxi suddenly sounds much better value.

It's the same with the shiny new bus station in Wolverhampton. Yes, it is clean bright and modern, far more attractive than the old, cramped affair. But the thing about the scruffy old bus station was you could just turn up, and get a bus to just about anywhere you were likely to want to go. Now you rock up, fiddle about with the exciting new touch screen, and it tells you that the bus you want only picks up passengers from the other side of town.

Yes, it is important that our buses are safe and reliable. No-body wants to see a fleet of old heaps that keep breaking down, but given the big fall in fuel costs, it is surely possible to maintain a safe, reliable bus service without resorting to an inflation-busting fare increase.

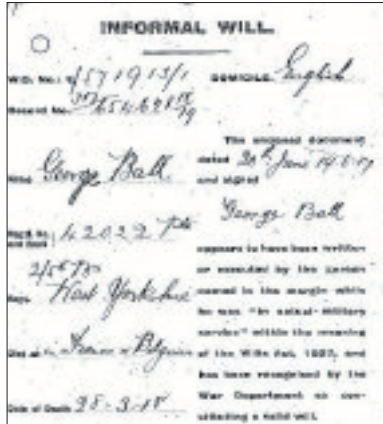
A cheap, cheerful, reliable and convenient service is all that most people require.



Private Benjamin Coley left all to his father



Private George Ball – buried at Bienveilliers



Close-up of an informal will

Last wish of men who fell in battle

How brave soldiers made sure their loved ones would inherit all they had, DANIEL WAINWRIGHT explains

THEY are the last wishes of men who gave their lives in service to their country.

Black Country and Staffordshire soldiers ensured their loved ones would inherit all they had after they fell in battle in the Great War.

The wills of servicemen who made the ultimate sacrifice are simple affairs. Three show how each soldier bequeathed all they owned either to parents or a spouse in just one sentence.

The wills form part of a unique UK archive of 278,000 digitised First World War documents.

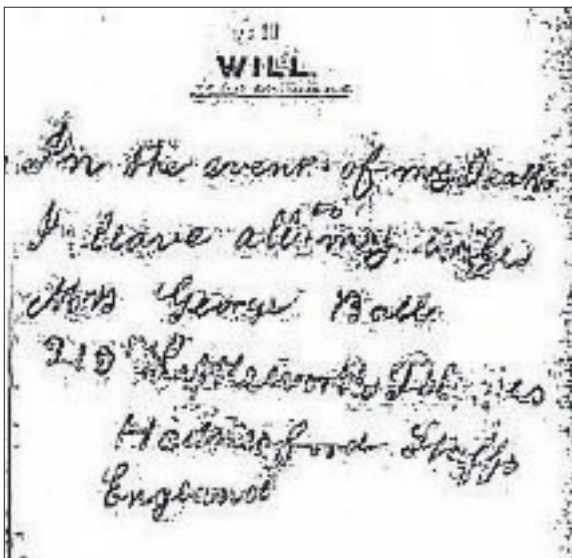
They have been preserved, scanned and placed online by records management company Iron Mountain and HM Courts & Tribunals Service as part of a modernisation programme and to mark the centenary of the start of the Great War.

Valid

The wills, which were carried around by soldiers at all times in a pocket book tucked into their uniform, represent the soldier's last ever personally-written record. More than one million searches for individual wills have already been made since the archive went live last year.

The 'informal will' documents declare that 'the enclosed document appears to have been written or executed by the person named in the margin while he was 'in actual military service' within the meaning of the Wills Act, 1837, and has been recognised by the War Department as constituting a valid will.'

Norman Joseph Brindley was born



Private George Ball left everything to his wife

in Wolverhampton in 1898, the son of Henry Joseph and Mary Ann Brindley (nee Neale).

He had a brother, Herbert Henry, born in 1890 but who died a few months later. According to the 1901 census he lived with his parents at 118 Dudley Road in Blakenhall and the family lived in Cherry Street by the time of his death.

Norman was a Rifleman with the 8th

City of London Battalion, Post Office Rifles, and died on April 29 1918 aged just 20.

His will states he 'died at France' and that he left 'the whole of my property and effects' to his father.

Private George Ball from Hednesford wanted to take care of his wife, Gertrude. Serving with the 2nd/5th Battalion, Prince of Wales's Own (West Yorkshire Regiment), he was killed in

action on March 28, 1918 at the age of 28.

His will gives the location of his death as 'France or Belgium' but he is buried in Bienveilliers Military Cemetery in Pas de Calais, France.

He lived with Gertrude in Littleworth Tileries, Hednesford. He was killed barely nine months after making his will. His simple will states: "In the event of my death I leave all to my wife Mrs George Ball," followed by their address.

Benjamin Coley's will states his death was on July 1 1916. But instead of a location, all that is recorded for his whereabouts is 'killed in action'.

The 23-year-old from Aldridge Road, Walsall Wood, served as a Private with the 1st Battalion, South Staffordshire Regiment.

His handwritten will states: "In the event of my death I give the whole of my property and effects to my father Mr Benjamin Coley, The Vigo, Walsall Wood, near Walsall."

Important

Pte Coley was buried at Thiepval Memorial in the Somme, France.

Last year marked the 100th anniversary of the start of the First World War.

Courts minister Shailesh Vara said: "It is important to remember those who laid down their lives for this country. By working with Iron Mountain to make this treasure trove of documents easily accessible online, HM Courts & Tribunals Service is preserving the memories of our fallen soldiers."

"This will be an invaluable tool for historians, genealogists and anyone who wants to add detail to their family tree."

"It is a great example of the Government working innovatively to provide a modern and efficient public service."

Scanned copies of wills are available for £10 from www.gov.uk/wills-probate-inheritance/searching-for-probate-records.

WEEK IN POLITICS

with Daniel Wainwright

THE words 'long-term economic plan' are still ringing through the streets of the West Midlands. Well, maybe that's a bit of an exaggeration. But they're certainly reverberating around the hotel on the South Staffordshire and Cannock border where George Osborne addressed a group of pensioners this week.

The Chancellor went table to table discussing his new pensioner bonds. Don't worry, that's not some later life version of Fifty Shades of Grey. Rather it's a way of giving savers something to offset the impact of low interest rates, which are helping people with mortgages but not doing a fat lot for those trying to build a nest egg.

The four aforementioned words are central to everything the Chancellor is campaigning on over the next few months.

"Stick with me and I'll make the country wealthy," he's effectively saying. Give the Treasury to the other lot and they'll undo all the good work."

Explain

It's really going to be a question as to how worth it the various upturns in the economy have been. If the cuts imposed since 2010 haven't been worth it then Mr Osborne's long-term economic plan is going to become an opposition pipe dream.

We're going to see him again before the election. He wants to set out a long-term economic plan for the Midlands as well.

Hopefully this will explain what we're actually meant to do with the Birmingham and Black Country Combined Authority that council leaders signed up to recently.

There has been a lot of talk about a so-called northern powerhouse. And Mr Osborne is adamant he wants a rebalanced economy that does not rely as heavily as previously on the City of London.

If the north is the powerhouse, the Midlands cannot just be the passed over middle child, a sort of unappetising stale jam inside the doughnut that would be the rest of England.

We will see George Osborne again. It's about time we found out what exactly is on the table in terms of devolved powers.

No employer should be able to get away without paying their workers at least the National Minimum Wage.

But I do have to wonder if a 'naming and shaming' policy by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills is really helpful.

All the ones in the West Midlands on the past two lists told of either 'genuine mistakes' or disputes with staff over their attendance.

It's very easy to say 'well they would say that'. But in one case a hairdresser in Walsall, with 15 years experience, was so upset that it's made her wonder whether or not she wants to take on trainees again.

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Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

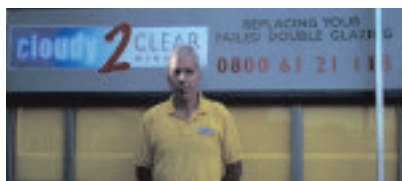
Managing Director Brian Stanley feels that it's all about service. "Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people

money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding

area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people



I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated."

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Time to target the MPs and Lords

SEEING on TV the constant coverage of hospital A&E departments not meeting their 96 per cent target of seeing patients within four hours, as set by the government, surely anyone visiting an A&E department recently will realise just how hard working and totally committed to their task are our underpaid and very undervalued doctors and nurses. Their prime concern is to ensure that their patients receive the best possible care given the difficult circumstances they are expected to work in.

Isn't it time that we now set the Govern-

ment and Lords targets — laws can only be passed in the House of Commons and House of Lords when no less than 96 per cent of our elected Members of Parliament are present in the Commons and 96 per cent of that grand old band of unelected Lords are present in the House of Lords. To help the House of Lords meet its target we may be wise to even suggest that 96 per cent of the Lords present should actually be awake and conscious of what is going on!

G BOOTH
Stourbridge

Generous shoppers

ONCE again the Tesco Store at Burnt Tree Island in Dudley kindly allowed the Rotary Club of Dudley to visit their store on two days with Father Christmas and his sleigh to collect for local charities. The club would like to thank all the people of the Dudley area for their generous support this Christmas and a total of £3,175 was collected. Our sincere thanks to all.

PAULINE GREGORY
President
Rotary Club of Dudley

Car wash shocker

RE the letter from P Cole of Kingswinford. I have never written to any newspaper before, but am so shocked that in this day and age, ANY member of the public can be SO ignorant of what is happening to even comment, let alone complain, about the cleanliness of emergency vehicles is incomprehensible!

Just where has P Cole been burying their head!

A BETLEY
via email

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

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No comment on GM and dairy farm crisis

I HEARD this week that after years of procrastination the EU has issued a new ruling that will allow each European country to decide for itself whether to embark on GM crop growing.

Apparently some have already decided — France, Germany, Scotland and Wales are against this proposal, whereas England is in favour of GM crops and this decision is supported by ever powerful DEFRA.

This seems counter intuitive doesn't it in the light of general consensus — the Soil Association is definitely against GM crops.

The other unfolding disastrous issue that is the position of our dairy farmers.

Over recent years farmers have been encouraged to produce more milk, breed-

ing cows with ever more milk producing capacity, investing in expensive state-of-the-art computerised milking parlours, of course abiding by all EU regulations with financial costs. And where are we now? Because of various factors, an overriding one being big supermarkets, constantly driving down the price of milk and therefore payments to farmers, now we have milk cheaper than bottled water!

The Government does and says nothing while more farmers struggle and go out of business, some have even committed suicide.

What of our long term sustainability? The farms gone are gone for good.

A FERRIER
Kinver

Locums for weekend call

DUE to an emergency on Saturday, January 3, my husband and I were in the A&E at Russells Hall Hospital.

Ambulance and A&E staff were the epitome of dignity and consideration while dealing with my husband.

There were people there who could have gone to their doctor instead but would have to probably have had to wait two weeks for an appointment, which in turn could have exacerbated their problem.

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Stourbridge

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Email: reception@rydalewindows.co.uk
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Key area of activity/sectors: Windows and conservatory manufacturers and installers

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Nurse is jailed over fatal crash after drink-driving

A NURSE from Dudley who killed his passenger in a car crash after drinking at a wedding reception has been jailed.

Timothy Salt, aged 24, was said to have been at least twice the drink-drive limit when he lost control of his car on a bend in Shropshire in March last year.

His front seat passenger, 22-year-old Joshua Jones, from Quarry Bank, suffered 'horrendous' injuries when the car struck a barrier and flew 30ft through the air before hitting an embankment.

Mr Jones, who was wearing a seat belt, died later in hospital. The defendant was treated for minor injuries.

At Shrewsbury Crown Court last week, Salt was jailed for 44 months after admitting causing death by careless driving while over the drink-drive limit.

Salt, of Stanhoe Close, who was a nurse at Russells Hall Hospital, was also disqualified for three years.

Judge Peter Barrie said: "There was no attempt to brake and it was not far short of dangerous driving."

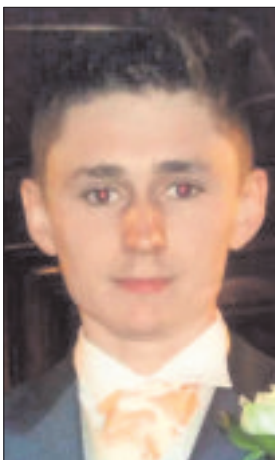
School

Mr Howard Searle, prosecuting, said the incident happened on Sutton Way, Sutton Hill, less than a mile from the Telford Golf and Spa Hotel where the two men had been attending a wedding reception on March 15 last year.

He said that Salt, who had been drinking lager, told guests he had drunk half a bottle of vodka.

Salt and Mr Jones knew each other from school and at around 9pm the defendant took Mr Jones out in his new Vauxhall Astra, a 2008 model described as Nurburgring Special with a 2000cc engine.

Mr Searle said witnesses who saw



Victim — mechanic Joshua Jones, 22, died because of Salt's careless driving the car travelling in Sutton Way estimated the speed at up to 100 mph.

There was no proof of the speed but factors including the impact damage indicated it was being driven "dangerously over the 30mph speed limit".

Three hours after the accident tests showed Salt had 67 milligrams of alcohol in his breath. The legal limit is 35.

Mr Searle said a blood test also showed he was over the limit and calculating back to the time of the crash, experts said there would have been between 140 and 225 millilitres of alcohol in his blood. The legal limit is 80.

Mr Harry Bowyer, for Salt, said his client had shown 'extreme remorse' and had to live with the guilt of killing

Jailed — Timothy Salt, 24, of Brierley Hill, caused the death of his passenger a friend for the rest of his life. He said Salt had no criminal or motoring convictions and was a "good man who had been involved in a reckless act".

Mr Jones leaves his parents, Deborah and Stuart, and his sister Nicola. The former Thorns Community College student worked as a mechanic with his father.

His mother Deborah, aged 50, said: "Joshua was the most loving son any parent could wish for."

"Tim was not a friend, he was an acquaintance from school. The sentence given to Tim was in our opinion far too light. Our family is feeling broken."

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Alternative way to solve family issues

Dudley Chronicle
Thursday, January 22, 2015

COMMERCIAL FEATURE

DO you need a more imaginative way of resolving your family law issues?

"It is not just Hollywood superstars adopting alternative approaches to divorce and family disputes," says Clare Wiseman, Head of Family Law at George Green Solicitors, which has offices in Wolverhampton and Cradley Heath.

Clare says cuts to legal aid and court budgets mean family cases are taking three times as long to resolve, via the traditional court route.

"The system is compromised by delay, uncertainty and anxiety as to costs. You should therefore consult lawyers who are alive to alternative methods of resolving disputes," adds Clare.

Mediation

This includes the ability to conduct "roundtable meetings", to identify cases suitable for mediation, be able to participate in the Collaborative Law process and/or experience in referring matters to arbitration.

Arbitration has a long history in certain areas. Arbitration is now another "tool in the box" of the family lawyer. In both the Collaborative Law process and Arbitration, the parties retain control over the process, can determine the identity of the expert advisers to resolve their disputes and set an agenda personal to them.

Parties often worry about ensuring that they get full and frank disclosure in respect of each other's financial circumstances. Although the High Court



Expertise - Clare Wiseman from George Green Solicitors

has recently made a "scapegoat" of a husband who failed to disclose the extent of his financial wealth and ordered that he pay his wife's costs, this is often little consolation to parties involved in difficult and distressing family disputes.

"At George Green we have the expertise and experience to consider all settlement options to minimise the im-

pact of an already stressful situation. We offer advice and assistance at a time, location and in a way to suit you," says Clare.

"It is no longer a case of "one size fits all."

Having trained as a Collaborative Lawyer, Clare confirms that "sitting round a table is often a more productive way of resolving family matters".

Helping ex-military adapt to civvy street



Supporting the scheme are Councillor Dave Tyler, programme manager Andy Foster, Ian Austin MP and Jacky Khan

EX-SERVICEMEN and women who are struggling to cope with life after the forces are being helped by a new project.

Shoulder to Shoulder is an initiative which has been set up by the volunteer charity Timebank to help those who find it hard to move on after the stress and sometimes the horrors of active duty.

The Dudley-based charity says the programme is designed to be an informal setting where they can talk about their problems and start to plan for the future.

With the UK operation in Afghanistan now at an end, those behind the scheme are aware there will be many former soldiers returning to return to normality.

While the initiative seeks to help veterans of all ages, it is young men that are of particular concern.

Programme manager Andy Forster said: "It is a macho culture so if someone is having panic attacks there is no support network and some have no family or friends to come back to."

Army life can also have other knock-on effects, says Mr Forster, particularly concerning control of anger. "If someone is in a pub and some-

thing is going to kick off, they are not able to have a proportionate response," he said. "It's the same when trying to get their benefits. They become the hidden underclass, sofa hoppers."

"The ex-soldiers who are in prison tend to be there for the same reason, violence - particularly domestic violence."

Dudley North MP Ian Austin said: "This is a really important project. These are people who have devoted their lives and taken great risks to serve our country and deserve our society's full support."

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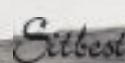
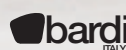
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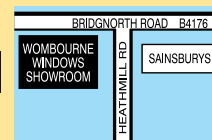
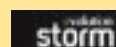
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£5m transformation of town's college campus

TOWERING glass windows and modern architecture — this picture shows the new entrance to Stourbridge College as work enters its final stages.

A £5 million project is under way to transform the college campus, off Hagley Road, as part of a project to modernise facilities for students.

Work to landscape the campus is taking place ahead of its opening to staff and students in March.

Windows have been installed and the frame of the new reception area is having its finishing touches.

The multi-million pound building will also house the Centre of Excellence for Health and Social Care and Early Years and other teaching and learning facilities.

Construction workers are expected to complete the project by the end of February.

The works follow a separate £1 million revamp of the college's A Level and IT classrooms and science laboratories.

Campus head Wendy Stevens said staff were delighted with the works so far to create an eye-catching new environment for students.

"We're really excited to see the £5m redevelopment of the main building on Hagley Road looking so spectacular," she said.

"Our students and staff are really looking forward to moving in to the impressive new, purpose-built facilities at the beginning of March."

The college is part of the Birmingham Metropolitan College which is also linked with Kidderminster College. It has an academy in the listed Piano Building in Kidderminster town centre and an art and design campus in Brierley Hill.



Pillars of learning — the modern look for the Hagley Road campus of Stourbridge College, ready in March

Climb cash boost for volunteer medics

A VOLUNTARY group which helps respond to 999 emergencies has been given a cash boost thanks to a charity challenge.

FastAid Black Country has been handed a cheque for £800 thanks to a group of Dudley politicians who took on a tough climb Britain's highest peak

The money is part of the £4,600 raised by the Bert Bissell Memorial Walk which saw group of councillors and Dudley North MP Ian Austin climb Britain's highest peak in memory of Dudley peace campaigner Bert Bissell.

FastAid Black Country are Community First Responders, volunteers who respond to emergency 999 calls. They are trained by the ambulance service to deliver basic life support to patients in cardiac arrest or with conditions such as strokes and choking.

Mayor's Consort Councillor Adam Aston, who also took part in the charity bid, said: "They are a great team of volunteers giving their time to help the rest of us and I'm really pleased we've been able to support their work."

Special Pc is in court for fiddling expenses

A SPECIAL police constable from Stourbridge fiddled his expenses to claim more than £1,300 in three years, a court has heard.

Mahesh Randeria claimed the extra cash by increasing mileages on expenses forms.

The 51-year-old, of Teasdale Way, has been suspended from his role and an investigation is ongoing.

He has worked with the force for 28 years and pleaded guilty to the offence at Birmingham Magistrates Court.

During October 2010 and November 2013 Randeria sometimes doubled the amount of miles he claimed to have travelled.

Randeria, a part-time steward at Aston Villa, was once honoured as the force's longest serving special constable. He was nicknamed The Heat — American slang for police — after appearing in a TV advert for energy supplier npower.

Owen Beale, prosecuting, said: "Mr Randeria was at the time of this offence a special constable at West Midlands Police.

Journey

"A journey he said was 61 miles, it in fact became clear that the journey distance was half that — 30 miles."

Sue Swan, defending, said Randeria had been praised for his excellent work and commended for long service.

The fraudulent claims arose when he did not change his mileage after splitting from his partner and moving out of their home.

"Mr Randeria has had a catalogue of really cata-

By Tim Spiers

strophic events in his life," said Ms Swan. Randeria had become a carer for his mother and best friend, both of whom had been diagnosed with cancer, and was also diagnosed as having Type 2 diabetes.

"Mr Randeria does accept his wrongdoing in this offence, however it appears to be borne out of laziness more than a calculated, pre-determined dishonesty on his part," she added.

"It would have involved getting receipts and being organised with those receipts. He didn't bother with that."

Magistrate Peter Pratt said Randeria had abused his position of trust. He added: "The degree of culpability is undoubtedly determined by the fact that you were a public servant and that the loss was against a public employer. The culpability is the abuse of the degree of trust that was placed on you by your employer to act honourably and properly."

Randeria will be sentenced at Birmingham Crown Court on February 4.

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Defence' chief's goal to stop budget cuts

DEFENCE secretary Michael Fallon has cited the 'key' role West Midlands soldiers play in securing Britain's safety at home and abroad following terror attacks in Paris.

Mr Fallon, who has urged the Prime Minister not to cut the defence budget after the General Election, said this was not the time to be reducing spending on the military.

The West Midlands has been hit hard by Government cuts to defence spending, with 3Mercian, formerly the Staffords, disbanded, while Territorial Army bases in Walsall and Kidderminster have closed.

The Royal Mercian and Lancastran Yeomanry, which had a base in Dudley, has also gone.

Chancellor George Osborne has said he would cut departmental budgets by another £13bn in the next parliament.

Mr Fallon was speaking during a trip to the Beacon Centre for the Blind in Wolverhampton Road East, Sedgley. The centre was founded in 1875 to support blind people in the area, many of them military veterans.

During his visit the defence secretary took time out to talk to residents and service users, and even donned a superhero-style blackout mask when he played a game of 'goal ball'.

Mr Fallon said: "We are still spending two per cent on defence, which meets our Nato target. That is something I am keen to see continue."

"There are serious threats from ISIL, from Russian aggression. This is no time to reduce the budget."

"There is a huge military tradition here in the West Midlands. It has and always will form a key part of our defence."

Mr Fallon said the attacks in France, had increased the importance of vigilance on the home front.



Defence secretary Michael Fallon with Beacon Centre CEO Arwyn Jones



Mr Fallon watches a game of goal ball during his visit to the Beacon Centre

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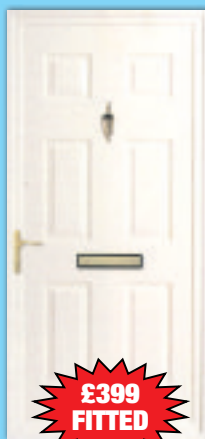
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Photos show how the city has changed

Wulfrunian Ladies WI

MAKING the best of a miserable evening, the Wulfrunian Ladies gathered to see the New Year in with a wonderful display of photographs by Dave Clare, a local amateur photographer and historian.

He entertained the ladies with a very interesting history of photographs and old postcards gathered by Dave over the past 40 years.

Dave's topic is 'Wolverhampton in Old Photographs' and the ladies were happy and saddened to see the changes to the city over time.

Dave has recorded the pre-demolition and demolition of sometimes beautiful and historic buildings and the construction of the larger version of Molineux which obliterated several streets' worth of houses.

Dave's Facebook page, Wolverhampton in Old Photographs is a treat for locals and amateur historians.

Next month the Wulfrunian Ladies will be advised in respect of skincare and pampered by Faye-Anne from the Bodyshop in respect of skincare.

Dig uncovers signs of early inhabitation

W'ton Archaeology Group

NOT all members are able to come on Sunday digs so the WAG's Project Reports meeting in November was a great opportunity to tell them what they had been doing.

At Wrottesley there is a demolished Neolithic long cairn, the outline of which is slowly being uncovered.

Members have been looking at Wednesfield to try to find evidence for early inhabitation of the area. There was a pub dig at the Dog and Partridge - which dates from the 16th century - and a cobbled surface was found, possibly stables and the remains of an old building in their garden.

This could confirm the pub's use as a coaching inn as it lies at the junction of two important routes. They also found Medieval pottery at the bottom of the test pits as they dug for those dug in the Memorial Garden which confirms that there has been human activity in Wednesfield since those times.

Work continued on looking for the original village - the two original churches had earlier been found.

An old map has given the group clues as to where it is so that is work for 2015.

The next meeting is on January 27 when Dr Chris Upton from Newman University, Birmingham will talk on Wolverhampton in Tudor times.

All members of the public are welcome but there is a charge of £2 for non-members.

Meetings are at the City of Wolverhampton College, Paget Road at 7pm in the Conference Suite.

Ideas sought for 85th anniversary

Trysull & Seisdon WI

PRESIDENT Sue Cotterell was unable to make the beginning of the January meeting, so Judy Fryer and Barbara Morris stepped in to welcome the group to the first meeting of the New Year.

Everyone agreed that the Christmas party in December had been a great success with a delicious three-course meal, and it was decided that the same caterers would book again this year.

Thanks from the club went to Rita Brown for organising it.

The January meeting was a social evening. Unfortunately the current flu and cold viruses that have been going round meant that there were many absent members.

However those that were able to attend enjoyed quizzes provided by

Judy, followed by a game of charades. Sue arrived in time for refreshments, after which she asked for ideas for outings or speakers for the forthcoming year.

This year is also the club's 85th anniversary so again, any ideas of how to celebrate the occasion would be welcomed.

The raffle was won by Rita Jordan.

There is now a change to the next meeting. There will be a cookery demonstration by the Good Life team from South Staffordshire Council.

The meeting takes place on February 12 at 7.30pm in the village hall, Trysull and the club is always pleased to welcome new members and visitors.

Evening of entertainment

Tettenhall & District WI

MEMBERS and friends celebrated their Christmas meeting in December 2014 with Will Morgan and 'an evening of folk music and entertainment'.

Before the meeting, the club invited two representatives from The Haven charity, a women's refuge, to give an insight to the work they do. Members then donated several Christmas gifts for the women and children.

A very entertaining and enjoyable

evening was had by all including a buffet supper.

Meetings are held every second Monday of the month at The United Reformed Church, Tettenhall, at 7.30pm.

The next meeting is on March 9 and the speaker is Cas Bailey on 'If You Can't Stand The Heat - Get Out Of The Kitchen'.

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City funeral for saviour of Wolves and Molineux

THOUSANDS of fans put their 'thumbs up' for Sir Jack Hayward as they paid tribute to the former Wolves owner at a packed Molineux.

Chants of 'he's one of our own' echoed around the ground.

Before kick-off, the crowd of 28,132 were on their feet for a minute's applause which finished with 200 gold and black balloons along with 91 Union flag balloons being released.

While fans in the Steve Bull stand helped to create a mosaic spelling out Sir Jack as they held up gold and black cards.

Sir Jack's son Jonathan, long-time companion Patti Bloom and friend Rachael Heyhoe Flint were joined on the pitch for the emotional tribute by Wolves owner Steve Morgan and chief executive Jez Moxey as well as a host of former managers and players including Ron Flowers, Steve Bull and Jody Craddock.

Both captains, Wolves' Danny Batth and Blackpool's Tony McMahon, carried out wreaths which were placed behind each goal.

Heart

Eight thousand copies of a special 100-page match day programme were quickly snapped up before 3pm. The club will be doing another print run to ensure fans who missed out on Saturday will get the chance to buy a copy.

Sir Jack's funeral will take place in Wolverhampton as his son Jonathan revealed the city was 'always close to his heart'.

Thousands of people are anticipated to line the streets for the service which will probably be at St Peter's Collegiate Church.

Youngest son Jonathan said: "He was so proud to be born here for a start and from that falling in love with the club. Finding it in dire straits in



Fans in a thumbs up tribute to Sir Jack Hayward at Molineux on Saturday



Wolves fans hold cards up to spell out their respect for Sir Jack Hayward

the 1980s his strength was always building things and now Molineux is a great testament to what he did for the club and generosity for the town of Wolverhampton.

"Where ever he was living in the world, Wolverhampton was close to his heart. The funeral will be in Wolverhampton, we can't release the details yet," he said. Further details

are expected to be released this week. Mayor of Wolverhampton Mike Heap said: "I will be a fitting tribute that Sir Jack will be coming back to Wolverhampton. He lived a wonderful life and worked wonders not just for the football club but for the people of Wolverhampton with his generosity."

Sir Jack died in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

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Historian Ron Davies with his latest book about Bilston, Bradley and Ladymoor



A civic procession on its way to St Martin's Church



The Thompson's Works football side lines up for a team shot in the 1960s



Police staff and cadets at Bilston Police Station in the 40s



Staff at Sankey's Bankfield Works in the 1950s

Town's proud history brought to book once more by 'Bilston hero'

HE'S been described as a "real Bilston hero" – and now 89-year-old Ron Davies has completed his final book on the town's proud history.

Mr Davies, of Bradley, has spent the last 15 years on a seemingly never-ending crusade to record the life and times of the area.

He has gathered old photographs, engravings and brochures to tell the story of his patch of the Black Country.

After all the hard work, Mr Davies has now launched the eighth and final book from his series, called Bilston, Bradley and Ladymore at Bilston Baptist Church.

He said: "It's nice to get it done. It seems to be very popular."

"When you finish a book, it gives you a huge sense of achievement. Now we're up to the eighth book, and that's a lot of achievement."

"I'd be surprised if anybody else focussed

MEMORY LANE

By Jordan Harris

so much on a certain area. At the age of nearly 90, I think I've done enough though. It always depends on the pictures that keep on coming in though."

The first in the series was released in 2000. Mr Davies had originally planned to turn down the offer to work on the book, but was convinced by the profits going to Compton Hospice.

"I've been coming to Bilston my entire life. It's a great area," he added.

In attendance at the launch was Wolverhampton MP Pat McFadden, who said: "Taken together, these books form a priceless local history and they are well-loved in the area."

"Ron is a local resident and historian and he has worked tirelessly over the years to bring the rich industrial heritage of Bilston and the surrounding area to life through

the amazing photographs in these books. He says this will be the last book in the series and I believe his work has made him a real Bilston hero.

"These books are for the community, Ron puts them together with their help, which I think is a brilliant thing."

The books celebrate the three Black Country townships' industrial heritage, as well as the strong sense of community and unique characters, through an illustrated historical guide.

Scrapbook

Each edition contains more than 200 old photographs designed to take readers back in time and act as an account of an era which may otherwise be forgotten.

Looking through the scrapbook of photographs, people can see the places change over time.

Many poignant memories are given a new lease of life, offering a trip down memory lane for some but for others this charming book will be a voyage of discovery. For a

short while, however, it looked as though this eighth edition would become 'the book that never was'.

A miscommunication during the shipping process from Mr Davies to his publisher led to the historian believing that the one and only copy he had of the book had been lost.

After he contacted Mr McFadden's office, the problem was eventually resolved and the book found safe and sound.

Mr McFadden said: "I am glad everything turned out well in the end."

"Ron is a lovely person, he is very talented and what he has done with these books is give future generations an account of what their town was like so many years ago."

Adrian Lloyd, minister at Bilston Baptist Church, said: "From the response they have had, this book fills a gap for the people of Bilston. They have had a lot of interest."

● Ron Davies' Bilston, Bradley and Ladymoor books, published by The History Press, can be bought online through Amazon.

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Andy never tires of the travelling life



Andy Irvine who still enjoys travelling and playing



Irvine, left, as a member of the Irish group Planxty

EVEN at the age of 72 Andy Irvine seems to be constantly on the move.

The day after this interview from his Fermanagh home he was heading out to Japan.

And with a wry laugh, the quietly spoken musician admits to having itchy feet.

"It would be true to say I have itchy feet. The trouble is every new place I go to I have to go back to, so every place I visit is added to the list."

"I think I should never have written that song Never Tire of the Road, I sometimes feel I have to live up to it," he jokes.

The folk world may never have heard of Irvine had fate taken another path for him because as a youngster Irvine was a child actor.

"I wasn't treated by directors and casts with the same kid gloves as I was as a child.

Tempted

"When I look back now I wasn't very good so it was a great relief for me to discover folk music when I was about 15.

"I do wonder now in my old age what kind of an actor I would be, I am sometimes tempted to seek a part in something, but I probably won't."

Irvine was born in London, in the middle of World War Two, to an Irish mother and Glaswegian father both of whom had musical talent and he followed his mother onto the stage for a while but it was his discovery of music through performers such as Lonnie Donegan, through whom indirectly

DANNY FARRAGHER talks to folk legend Andy Irvine about 50 years of playing on the move

he came across his idol Woody Guthrie, which led Irvine to Dublin and the burgeoning folk scene that was happening there.

"I usually pinpoint 1965 as the beginning of my professional career when I stopped acting and started playing music, although my first gig was actually in '63.

"My first success was with Sweeney's Men not as Andy Irvine, it was only after that I gradually built up a bit of a following.

"Dublin was a big learning curve. Sweeney's Men were 1966 but it wasn't until 1972 with Planxty which was the biggest hit I was ever in and it certainly established me afterwards as a person in my own right.

"I have never looked for success or to do anything other than play the music that I play and luckily enough people have liked it, that I have been able to earn a living."

In famous Dublin pubs such as O'Donoghue's Irvine would play alongside musicians some of which are now legends. Ronnie Drew, Luke Kelly, Barney McKenna spring to mind.

So over the decades he has been able to see and be involved in many changes on the music scene.

"It's hard to take the scene out of the world.

"If you go back to the sixties the world was a much bigger place and the scene was much bigger."

"Over my fifty-year career I have played in countries that I

would never have thought of in the early sixties.

"Things move in and out of popularity, for instance if you play a tour of folk clubs in the UK you are not going to see too many young people.

"In Ireland it's slightly different because it doesn't quite have the same grey beard tag.

"People have been saying for years in the British folk scene that folk clubs are not what they were and the scene is dying.

"As far as I can see in the last 15 years since people started saying this I have had a tour every 18 months and I am sure people such as Martin Carthy would say the same."

Legend

Two years after the event of celebrating his 70th Birthday the album and DVD of the two nights of live music at Victoria Street is finally released.

"It (the concert) was a really great experience, someone ran to Paul Brady in Vicar street and said to him 'Aww that was great' and Paul replied, yes Andy should have more 70th birthdays."

It's well documented he has been a big admirer of Woody Guthrie since discovering his name on a Lonnie Donegan album, he progressed to writing to the legend and even admitted to claiming to be the American hero.

"Woody was a big influence on



A much younger Andy Irvine whose new album celebrates his 70th

me way way back and has continued to be and I will never know if all the travelling I have done is because of his influence or whether I had it in me and that's why I admired him to that extent, a chicken and egg scenario.

A lot of what he said and stands for is what I still say and stand for."

Now at the grand age of 72 are there no thoughts of retiring? "I can't see any reason to retire. So I will die with my boots on."

By his own admission, he has realised, and quite late he confesses, that he is not going to live forever so are there any burning ambitions left?

"I still have to make the bloody Woody Guthrie album I have been threatening to make for the last 20 years, I can't pass away before I finished that one."

Irvine's 70th Birthday Concert @ Vicar Street is available now from www.andyirvine.com.

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Petition will oppose free transport cuts for children

Have a say on your community at meetings

Love is in the air at Himley Hall open day



Hall together now — Laura Eagles and Adam Davies are planning their big day at Himley Hall

COUPLES planning to tie the knot got the chance to tour historic Himley Hall, which holds civil wedding and partnership ceremonies.

They saw the venue's refurbished art-deco style North Wing, which once housed the Earl of Dudley's swimming pool and cinema. Wedding co-ordinators and catering team were on hand to answer questions.

Registrars from the Staffordshire Registration Service also guided couples through the civil ceremony process during the open day on Sunday, attended by around 100 couples.

Among them were Laura Eagles, from West Bromwich, and Adam Davies, of Stallings Lane, Kingswinford. Mr Davies, 22, a Dudley Council worker, popped the question on Christmas Day. The couple have now started planning for their big day to be held in 2017. Mr Davies and Miss Eagles, a retail supervisor from Great Bridge, have been together for five years.

Business helps YMCA's project helping homeless

A PROJECT which helps homeless young people in the Black Country has been boosted thanks to a charitable donation.

The YMCA Open Door project provides supported lodgings for homeless young people in secure and friendly settings in the homes of volunteer hosts.

More than 80 hosts are already based across the Black Country, offering a home as a place to stay while helping the individuals learn life skills to ensure young people move on successfully into independence.

Staff at Stourbridge beauticians Tej and Co helped raise £250 for the cause with a raffle. Owner Te-

jinder Tanda Ghag, a mother-of-two from Stourbridge, said being a mother had prompted her to support the charity.

The YMCA's Rachael Taylor said: "The generosity of Tejinder along with her staff and clients, together with other donations, can make all the difference to the lives of young people at risk in the Black Country."

"Without the ongoing support of people like Tejinder, we would not be able to offer a safe home, guidance and a future to many young people," she added.

To find out more call 0121 524 1974 or email rachael.taylor@ymcabc.org.uk

A PETITION has been launched against proposed cuts to free transport for children with special needs.

Campaigners have labelled the Dudley Council plan as 'immoral' and say they will fight the plans, which the authority hopes will save more than £200,000 a year.

West Midlands MEP Bill Etheridge, who is a councillor in Sedgley, urged the council to look for cuts elsewhere instead of hitting the service.

"Surely savings could be made elsewhere, like scrapping the position of chief executive at the council for a start," he said.

"It would be immoral to scrap this support to the families taking these children to this nursery when the same local authority recently approved massive hikes to fat cat salaries and also voted down UKIP proposals to reduce the number of councillors in Dudley."

By Andrew Turton

The authority said it is not legally required to provide the service and has launched a consultation on charges.

The council currently pays for 49 children with additional needs to travel to specialist nurseries in the borough.

But leaders claim they have been forced to consider axing the service after funding cutbacks from central Government. They also said that by September, when the proposed charges could be introduced, only be 11 children would be affected.

Limited

Councillor Tim Crumpton, who is in charge of children services in Dudley, said: "This is not something we would want to do but unfortunately due to the continued reduction in Government funding we are limited to provid-

ing services we legally must provide."

He claimed many of the families affected received benefits that can help towards travel costs for their children.

Councillor Crumpton added: "However, we know that for some people this could be difficult and we are working hard behind the scenes at how we deliver the specialist nursery service across the borough to ensure every child who needs it has access to it."

"We have looked at the figures carefully and do not intend to remove a service from people who have become accustomed to receiving it."

Tory education spokesman, Councillor Les Jones, added: "I have been critical for a number of years of how much the authority spends on transport in children's and adult services. The majority of this cost is through taxis. This seems to be a political move to shift blame towards Government cuts."

The consultation runs until March 2. Visit www.dudley.gov.uk

A SERIES of meetings are being held this month for residents to have a say on issues in their that affect their area.

The community forums are run by Dudley Council and attended by ward councillors.

A meeting for Nether-ton, St Andrews, Woodside and Quarry Bank takes place on Monday at 6.30pm at Woodside Community Centre, Highgate Road.

The Gornal, Upper Gornal and Woodseton forum starts at 6.30pm the same day at Roberts Street Primary School, Lower Gornal.

The Halesowen event takes place at Leasowes Community College, Kent Road, and the Coseley East and Sedgley forum is held at Age UK, Etymore Road,

Sedgley. Both are on Tuesday at 6.30pm.

The forum for Norton, Pedmore and Stourbridge East, Wollaston and Stourbridge Town is held at Gig Mill Primary School, The Broadway, Norton on Wednesday, January 28, at 6.30pm.

Councillor

Residents of Castle and Priory, St James's and St Thomas's can attend the St Thomas's Community Network, Beechwood Road, Dudley at 6.30pm, also on Wednesday.

Quarry Bank and Dudley Wood councillor David Sparks has hailed the meetings as 'an opportunity to have their say about how we can work better with communities'.

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22 Swedish sisters slay 'em at Symphony

First Aid Kit
Symphony Hall, Birmingham
SWEDISH sisters Klara and Johanna Soderberg have been on a lot of radars lately.
Not only are they touring as First Aid Kit on the back of their latest album Stay Gold, they can also be found on Swedish stamps and have been nominated for a Brit award for best International Group.

Their popularity, certainly in Birmingham, has rocketed. Three years ago they were playing The Rainbow which is in serious contrast to their latest sell-out gig at Symphony Hall.
Opening with the title track of their album Lion's Roar, Klara's unmistakable voice cut through the darkness before the stage exploded in a burst of lights.
The siblings have one of the most recognisable sounds on the folk/coun-

try circuit at the moment with Klara on acoustic guitar and her sister rocking out in a swirl of hair on her keyboard.
They followed this with the title track of their new album, and then Blue, another from Lion, and kept the packed hall happy with tracks such as King of the World, Master Pretender, Waitress and My Silver Lining. A highlight was them singing GhostTown unplugged.
Danny Farragher

Play full of Eastern promise

East Is East, New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham
THERE were comedy scenes but also flashes of violence in this thought-provoking production.

Written by Ayub Khan Din, who played the disciplinarian George Khan, it told of the Pakistani father's struggles to bring up his seven children with strict Muslim principles, despite their mixed race upbringing during the 1970s in Salford. He was comedic and menacing in equal measure. Although Jane Horrocks as English wife Ella was the star name, it could not have been more expertly cast.
Stand-in Meenah, Deepal Parmar, put in a stirring performance. But no one could be faulted, from Michael Karim as the twitchy Parka-wearing Sajit, Ashley Kumar as rebellious Tariq, Amit Shah as Abdul, Darren Kuppen as God-fearing Maneer and Nathan Clarke as art student Saleem. It was humorous and moving. Simply brilliant.

Mark Shipp

REVIEWS



Celebrities and their dancers ready for the Strictly Come Dancing Live Tour 2015

Strictly top rate as Simon's terrific tango wins the votes

Strictly Come Dancing Live Tour Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham
NO doubt about it, the Argentine Tango stole the show.

And it meant that TV series runner up Simon Webbe got to lift the glitterball on the first night of the SCD tour at Birmingham.
The packed arena went wild as Simon and professional dancer Kristina pulled off the dance to perfection – although they only managed to get 29 out of 30 from the judges. There were 10s from dancer Camilla Dallerup and her previous celebrity partner Tom Chambers, they lifted the glitterball

back in 2008, but needless to say, to loud boos, only a 9 from Mr Sunshine himself, head judge Craig Revel Horwood.
In second place was TV series champion Caroline Flack dancing with Tristan MacManus. Saturdays singer Frankie Bridge had to pull out because of pregnancy sickness and was replaced by former celebrity contestant S Club 7's Rachel Stevens.
The other celebrity dancers were the hunky Thom Evans, exuberant Alison Hammond, popular Mark Wright and the less than impressive Scott Mills. As host Zoe Ball said it was Strictly Brum Dancing and the crowd lapped it up.
Sue Attwater

New Rae of light on music scene

Album reviews

By Leon Burakowski

LANCASHIRE singer/songwriter Rae Morris lives up to her promise, after collaborations with Bombay Bicycle Club, Clean Bandit and Tom Odell, on her debut album Unguarded.

Her poised, elegant style with an appealing hint of vulnerability has lots of appeal. Kate Bush is a clear influence and Rae also seems a kindred spirit to Ellie Goulding. The 22-year-old has several potential hits on this Atlantic Records release including Under The Shadows, jazzy groove Closer and her collaboration with Fryars (AKA) on the frosty electronica of Cold.

She will be in concert, with support from Fryars, at Birmingham's Institute in Digbeth on Thursday, February 5.

Accessible

It had been long delayed by the previous record label's inertia but Fryars second album **Power** (Fiction) is finally out and hopefully Fiction will be rewarded for giving a platform to Benjamin Garrett (AKA Fryars), one of the most talented and promising singer-songwriters on the UK electronica scene. Let's just hope it didn't get lost in the festive rush.

He has a knack of writing a song that instantly sounds familiar, which is usually a good sign, and does that trick several times here, with Sequoia, Thing Of Beauty and Cool Like Me.

His melancholy sound is accessible enough to appeal to pop fans of outfits like Bastille and admirers of more esoteric artists like James Blake.

American indie folk/rock band **The Decemberists** are proof that a great band can still make it through talent



Rae Morris — poised, elegant style on her debut album Unguarded

and graft, rather than manufactured hype. Fronted by Colin Meloy, the Oregon outfit have imprinted themselves on the US scene with honest heart-felt rootsy rock, particularly since they ditched long concept songs in favour of a more radio friendly approach.

Last album **The King Is Dead** went straight into the US chart at number one and featured Grammy nominated single **Down By The Water**. They even found themselves on **The Simpsons**.

Seventh studio album **What A Terrible World What A Beautiful World** (Rough Trade) will continue their success due to its strong songs delivered in traditional semi-acoustic style. The key song 12/17/12, written after the Newtown school shootings, is a harmonica-accompanied classic that

would make Springsteen proud. See **The Decemberists** in concert at The Institute in Birmingham on February 18.

If pop genius Brian Wilson of **The Beach Boys** had grown up in an age of moogs and synths, then he may have made an album like **Panda Bear Meets The Grim Reaper** (Domino).

Singer/songwriter **Noah Lennox** (AKA **Panda Bear**), from American experimentalists **Animal Collective**, has created a highly atmospheric album blending fidgety electronics with plaintive vocals in his own style of techno-psychedelia. It includes a brainstorm of effects, such as yelping dogs on the stomping glam cruncher **Mr Noah**. The playfulness recalls **Brian Eno's** early solo work.

The title is no joke as a sense of loss haunts several of the songs, particularly **Tropic of Cancer** (with its refrain "you can't come back, you won't come back to me") and **Lonely Wanderer** with its gorgeous Debussy sample.

Songwriter and singer **Stuart Murdoch** exercises his demons over an eclectic variety of musical styles on **Girls In Peacetime Want To Dance** (Matador), the ninth studio album from Glaswegian band **Belle and Sebastian** and their first for five years.

The subjects can be sombre, such as the songwriter's struggle with **Chronic Fatigue Syndrome**, but the music is anything but — hitting the dancefloor in a Daft Punk way on **The Party Line** and sounding akin to Erasure synth pop on **Enter Sylvia Plat**. However, **The Cat With The Cream** recalls the more tender indie-pop sounds of earlier albums.

Gaz Coombes, former frontman of Britpop trio **Supergrass**, is back with his second solo album, **Matador** (Hot Fruit/Caroline), a quality collection of songs blending acoustic guitar strumming and electronics. Songs like **Seven Walls** and **To The Wire** are subtle but rewarding. He's still **Alright** and he's at **Birmingham Glee Club** on February 9.

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Bournville actress is nominated for an Oscar

SHE is an acclaimed actress nominated for an Oscar for her powerful performance as the wife of brilliant scientist Stephen Hawking.

Felicity Jones has gone from advertising face wash for spoty teenagers to starring in The Theory of Everything – and her parents met while working at the Express & Star.

The 31-year-old grew up in Bournville, Birmingham, and was raised by her mother, Julia, who had worked in the newspaper's advertising department.

Her father is Gareth Jones, who was a journalist at the Wolverhampton head office.

Felicity's mother is the sister of actor Michael Hadley, who has appeared in films such as The Boat That Rocked and on TV in Ashes to Ashes and A Touch of Frost.

Break

Julia raised Felicity and her brother alone after she and Gareth divorced when Felicity was three.

Felicity's big break came in 1996 when she played Alice in the film adaptation of Edith Nesbit's novel The Treasure Seekers.

She also appeared in Central Television's adaptation of the children's book series The Worst Witch, playing school bully Ethel Hallow. When she was 17 she was in the advert for Johnson & Johnson's Clean and Clear, playing a teenager worried about the state of her skin.

She played Emma Carter in The Archers on Radio 4 and appeared in a Doctor Who episode, The Unicorn and the Wasp, in 2008.

Her big screen roles included parts in Ricky Gervais and Stephen Merchant's 2010 film Cemetery Junction



Felicity Jones plays scientist's wife and appearing as Harry Osborn's assistant Felicia in The Amazing Spider-Man 2.

Her performance in The Theory of Everything, alongside Eddie Redmayne as Hawking, has seen her nominated for an Oscar.

She will compete against Marion Cotillard, Julianne Moore, Rosamund Pike and Reese Witherspoon for the award.

"It's a film that we all cared so much about because we were playing real-life people and complicated, nuanced, interesting characters – this is all just wonderful that people enjoy it," she said.

"It's really exciting to be nominated with this group of British actors," she gushed, before adding that she spent the morning sitting on her bed in an hotel room.

"I'm sitting in my pyjamas calling family and friends. I've spoken to my mother, my father and my brother," she added.

She revealed that she will be sharing her nomination with Jane Wilde Hawking, the woman she portrayed in the hit film.

"It was such a phenomenal story. Stephen and Jane really graciously let us into their lives so it was a very special story to be telling."

"I got to know Jane so well that I had such affection for her. I feel like I'm absolutely sharing this nomination with her," she said.

Eddie Redmayne and Benedict Cumberbatchgo head-to-head in the race to be named best actor. They were both recognised for their portrayals of pioneering scientists.

Redmayne, whose performance as Professor Hawking has already won him a Golden Globe, is among the early favourites to carry off the statuette. As well as Cumberbatch, who played code-breaker Alan Turing in The Imitation Game, Redmayne is up against Steve Carell, nominated for Foxcatcher, American Sniper's Bradley Cooper and Birdman's Michael Keaton for the award.

Early odds suggest Redmayne faces stiff competition from Keaton to be named best actor. The US star is 4-5 to win, just marginally ahead of Redmayne at 10-11, according to bookmaker William Hill.

Both The Theory Of Everything and The Imitation Game are in contention to be named best film along with American Sniper, Birdman, Boyhood, The Grand Budapest Hotel, Selma and Whiplash.

Keira Knightley, who stars alongside Cumberbatch in The Imitation Game, is nominated for the best supporting actress award alongside Meryl Streep, who is shortlisted for a 19th time. Other nominees are Patricia Arquette, Laura Dern and Emma Stone. Nominees for supporting actor are Robert Duvall, Ethan Hawke, Edward Norton, Mark Ruffalo and JK Simmons.

A glimpse behind the scenes at ballet HQ

A MAJOR ballet company is throwing open the doors of its revamped base to give the public a behind-the-scenes glimpse inside Birmingham Royal Ballet.

The company's three-storey HQ, behind its main performance venue Birmingham Hippodrome in Thorp Street, has had a £2.7 million revamp including three refurbished dance studios.

The public are invited to see the company's new rehearsal studios on specially guided tours on Sunday from 11am to 4pm.

Some of Birmingham Royal Ballet's costumes and wigs will be on display. There will also be informal performances from the company's dancers as well as performances from Freetail Dance Company, an initiative created by BRB for gifted young people with severe learning difficulties.

VIPs had a tour of the new facilities on Monday, including Strictly Come Dancing judge and former Royal Ballet star Darcey Bussell, in her capacity as President of Birmingham Royal Ballet's Campaign for the Future.

Birmingham's ballet company moved to the city from London, where it had been the Royal Ballet's touring company, nearly a quarter of a century ago. It sends its professionals into Birmingham and Black Country schools to introduce ballet to youngsters and talent spot potential future stars.

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Heading south to Mostar see the 16th century mosques, turkish houses, the fine 19th century town hall plus the amazing reconstructed bridge, linking the two halves of the old town.

Dubrovnik is a beautiful baroque city with huge imposing ramparts. The main avenue is completely paved with marble and throughout the city there is a wonderful array of monasteries, decorated churches and civic buildings dating from the 14th century.

A tour of Montenegro, one of Europe's newest countries is also included. The first stop is made at the medieval town of Kotor, walled with a labyrinth of cobbled streets surrounding its Orthodox Cathedral, followed by the medieval town of Budva. The return is across the inland sea by boat to Dubrovnik.

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School on the 'crest' of wave

CRESTWOOD School is delighted to have twice received national recognition for outstanding student progress and achievement.

Students again made excellent progress during the summer exams, which is fantastic recognition.

Crestwood aims to develop independent young people who truly believe "anything is possible".

Staff encourage every individual to have an active mind, a sense of under-

standing, compassion for others and the courage to act on their beliefs.

To enhance the curriculum and offer students a variety of experiences and opportunities, there are many additional, sometimes challenging, activities and events on offer.

All opportunities aim to help students to reach their full potential.

Sports teams are very successful and have had some great results during 2014. Several of the girls' under 16 netball team have been scouted and the county team is now training at Crestwood.

There are also some very talented footballers and athletes in school. The junior sports leadership programme has proved extremely positive with older students supporting local primary schools to help deliver sporting activities.

The opportunity to take Duke of Edinburgh Bronze & Silver Awards is available and helps equip and develop young people with skills for life and work.

For further details about the school call 01384 816535 or visit www.crestwood-s.dudley.sch.uk

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- Parents have a positive view about the work of the school and are actively encouraged to support with their child's learning and progress.
- The students embrace the school's high expectations for learning and develop skills to become successful learners.



- The staff and students recognise the positive contributions they make to their community.
- The broad balanced curriculum meets the needs of students well and includes a wide range of academic and vocational opportunities, enabling them to follow their aspirations.
- There are a variety of out-of-school sporting and enrichment activities to appeal to all students, as well as a wide range of extended GCSE and AS studies on offer, providing excellent progression routes post 16.



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Pupils at the school are pushing themselves to develop new skills



The students' work is of the highest standards



Looking after young people so they can flourish to the best of their ability

New challenges ahead

AFTER a frantic end to 2014, the new year is set to bring new challenges and opportunities for everyone associated with Castle High School, Dudley.

Last year finished with its customary flourish.

The school's musicians found the time to mount a Christmas concert and a carol service, its sports stars took part in a full programme of fixtures and everyone found time to support local charities in the run-up to the end of term.

The highlight of the term was the Celebration of Achievement Evening which was a huge suc-

cess with Central News presenter Sameena Ali-Khan, guest of honour.

In the company of last year's leavers, lower school prize winners, parents and staff, Mrs Ali-Khan spoke about her time in education, her determination to succeed in her various media roles and her enthusiasm for life-long learning.

The evening was a just celebration of the achievements of those students who had contributed to yet another impressive set of results at Castle High, due in no small part to the their hard work and dedication, but also to the high quality of teaching throughout the school.

Evidence for this comes from examination results which continue to improve year on year

and the progress which students make across the school. But it is also clear from the wide range of out-of-class opportunities, where students have to push themselves to learn new skills.

Dedicated

Helping them in this is a dedicated team of teachers and also Year 11 prefects who are making a real difference to the school both in and out of the classroom.

They have already been charged with organising their own prom and have been meeting regularly to give their views on changes to the school. In addition they are helping younger

students to settle into life at Castle High and are giving up their own time to support younger students in various activities around the school.

Headteacher Michelle King places great importance on high aspirations and expectations as key components in the continuing success of the school.

"We expect the very best from our students and our teachers," she says. "We will tolerate nothing but the very best teaching and learning."

"We expect the highest standards of student work and behaviour, and consider students' uniform and their relationships with one another to be exceptionally important."

An extensive support system has been put in

place to cater for the needs of all students and there is a strong emphasis on care and guidance at all levels.

"We work hard to see our students succeed, to make our facilities the best they can be and to look after our young people so that they can flourish to the best of their ability," says Michelle King.

"I am extremely proud of Castle High School, our students and the work which all members of our staff do. It's a great place to be."

Visit www.castle.dudley.sch.uk for further information or telephone the school on 01384 816045 to arrange a visit at a time to suit you.

Castle High School and Visual Arts College

"The school is a harmonious community"
Ofsted

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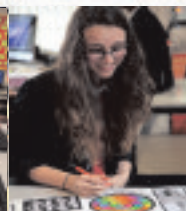
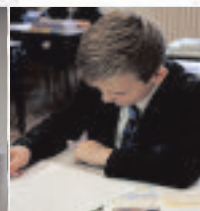
"Students show respect for each other and for adults.
Their behaviour in lessons and around the school is good"
Ofsted

Headteacher: Michelle King

Tel: 01384 816 045

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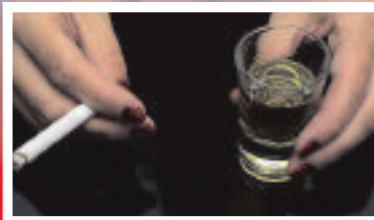
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build a relationship and trust with the staff. All cleaning products are provided and any special requirements can be taken into consideration. Castlegate Housemaids also takes environmental issues seriously in disposing of waste and recycling wherever possible. Castlegate Housemaids are fully insured and listed in the Age UK fix a home booklet. Payments are accepted either by cheque or online. Our website testimonials can help you decide if you want to try our services from satisfied customers and long term service users. Feel free to call and discuss your needs to having a stress free life and a cleaner home.



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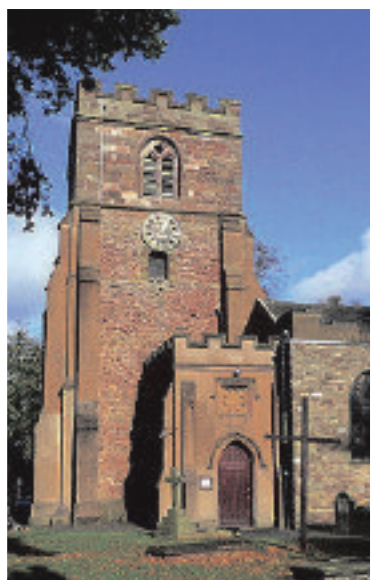
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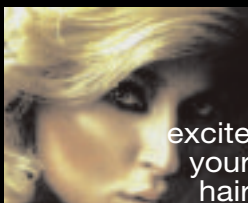
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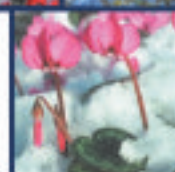
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Tributes to the super troupers

ABBA fans are in for a treat with two top tributes to the Swedish pop wonders of the 1970s and 80s taking place.

Abba Mania celebrate 40 years since Agnetha, Björn, Benny and Anni-Frid won Eurovision by playing the hits at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre tomorrow night (Friday), whilst Bootleg Abba take their opportunity to thank them for the music at Bilston's Robin 2 next Saturday, January 31. The Robin show will also feature the Bee Gees Downunder.

There's more nostalgia at the Grand this Saturday with the Sensational 60s Experience featuring Herman's Hermits, Dave Berry, The Swinging Blue Jeans and The Union Gap, among others.

Three comedians stand up at club

A NIGHT of stand-up comedy and a three-course meal is being hosted by a Black Country rugby club.

Dudley comic Wayne Beese leads the acts on the bill tomorrow night (Friday) at Stourbridge Rugby Club's Stourton Park ground, off Bridgnorth Road.

Joining rising star Wayne will be improviser Ben Briggs and Brummie comedian Andy White.

Tickets cost £20 which includes the meal. The show starts at 7.30pm.

Call John Slim on 07989 786913, the club on (01384) 395000 or email linda@stourbridgerugby.com

Theatre group see Peter Pan put on trial for refusing to grow up

Harvey is revived at The Rep

MAUREEN Lipman, fondly remembered as the BT grannie, will join Gimme Gimme Gimme actor James Dreyfus in Lindsay Posner's new production of 1940s American comedy Harvey at Birmingham Rep next month, before heading for the West End.

The Broadway comedy-drama by Mary Chase was made into a classic movie starring James Stewart as Elwood P Dowd who, to the dismay of his family, has an unwavering friendship with a six-foot tall rabbit called Harvey, who is invisible to everyone else. The production is based on the Broadway revival of 2012 which starred Jim Parsons, from TV's Big Bang Theory, as Dowd.

Lipman, who was at the Rep in 2013 in Oliver Cotton's Daytona, plays Dowd's exasperated sister.

It is at the Centenary Square venue from February 6 to 21.



Maureen Lipman and James Dreyfus in Harvey at The Rep

AN UPCOMING play will see Peter Pan head back to Neverland and then stand trial for refusing to grow up.

The Trial of Peter Pan, which will have a free performance at the Birmingham Rep's Door venue, features a cast made up entirely of actors with learning disabilities from the Stourbridge-based Side by Side theatre group.

Director Susan Wallin MBE, aged 71, from Norton, said: "In our play Peter is all grown up and the whole play has been inspired by the idea in the original JM Barrie work that Wendy's daughter was the next to go with him."

"I decided to carry that on and our play features her great-granddaughter Angela. However, every time Peter comes back to our world he ages and he is now 47 but thinks he is still a child, so he is put on trial for refusing to grow up."

The play will be shown for free at the Birmingham Rep on Saturday, January 31, and will receive a full run at the Stourbridge Town Hall in June.

Actors

Mrs Wallin said the theatre group had received several awards.

"They are all dedicated theatrical actors," she said. "We have performed at the Edinburgh Fringe as well as abroad in Sweden and Prague."

"The actors' ability to take on the challenges of learning great swathes of lines, as well as being responsible for moving their own set on the stage, is remarkable."

The group is entirely self-funded and Mrs Wallin said it was currently on the lookout for new members.

She said: "The only prerequisites are that they have to be dedicated and have a real interest in theatre."

"This is not a club but a real theatre group that requires commitment and a dedication to the arts."

The show at the Rep will run from 12.30pm to 1pm on The Door stage. Tickets are free and can be booked via birmingham-rep.co.uk or by calling 0121 236 4455.



From left, David Atkins, James Emtage and Susie Schartz rehearse for Side by Side's The Trial of Peter Pan

It's not the only Pan-tastic production at The Rep as the main house hosts riotous comedy Peter Pan Goes Wrong, Mischief Theatre's spoof about an accident-prone theatre company in similar vein to their hit production The Play That Goes Wrong. It's on from Tuesday to Sunday.

Brian Conley stars in circus musical Barnum at Wolverhampton Grand from Tuesday to Saturday. Science fiction rock 'n' roll musical Return To The Forbidden Planet shows robots rock at Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre, Monday to Saturday.

Classic rock and some horror too

SINGER Paul Carrack, the voice of Mike & The Mechanics and Ace, will be in concert at the Symphony Hall, Birmingham, on Saturday night with old favourites and songs from his recent Rain or Shine album.

Other gigs include Queen fronted by Adam Lambert at the Barclaycard Arena tomorrow (Friday), the Mark Lanegan Band at Digbeth's The Institute on Monday and vintage jump jive from King Pleasure & The Biscuit Boys at the Robin 2 on Thursday.

Horror rockers Slipknot are at the Barclaycard Arena on Tuesday — fans of the macabre may also want to check out Night of the Zombie by The Circus of Horrors at Wolverhampton Civic Hall on Saturday.

Solo or Bust' for singer Charlie

THE one refusnik to the hugely successful McBusted venture, former Busted lead singer Charlie Simpson, brings his folk-influenced songs to Wolverhampton's Slade Rooms on Tuesday.

Simpson, unlike his celebrity former bandmates, has not joined the super-group blend of McFly and Busted who have been enjoying arena-sized success around the country. Instead he will be performing without a band for the first time in intimate acoustic shows performing songs from his top ten album Long Road Home.

Tickets cost £16.50. Call 0870 320 7000.

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CHOICE



Alfred Hitchcock

Holocaust: Night Will Fall (Channel 4, 9pm)

With Holocaust Memorial Day taking place on January 27, 2015, this timely documentary reflects on the time Allied forces liberated the Nazi concentration camps in 1944-45. Their shocking discoveries revealed the full horror of what had happened for the first time. With the aid of British, American and Soviet footage, the Ministry of Information's Sidney Bernstein aimed to create a documentary that would provide undeniable, lasting evidence of the Nazis' horrific crimes. However, before it could be completed, and despite initial support from the British and US Governments, the film was mothballed; it was deemed too sensitive for the changing political climate. Now, seven decades on, and with help from the Imperial War Museums, Bernstein's film has been restored and completed.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** James Martin: Home Comforts. **12.00** BBC News: Weather. **12.10** Football Focus. **1.00** Bargain Hunt. (R) **2.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **3.00** Escape to the Continent. (R) **4.00** Final Score. **5.20** Pointless Celebrities. (R)

6.10 BBC News: Regional News; Weather. **6.30** Now You See It. The best and worst of the magic world, featuring a man who disguises himself as an armchair and strange happenings in a chip shop, as well as a few tricks going wrong.

7.00 The Voice UK. Emma Willis and Marvin Humes join the hopefuls backstage for the third round of blind auditions. As usual, coaches Tom Jones, William, Ricky Wilson and Rita Ora decide whether they want the acts based purely on their singing voices, spinning in their chairs to show their interest. Tonight's hopefuls include a YouTube sensation once signed with Justin Timberlake's record label, a Lady Gaga tribute act and a former member of 1980s charts stars Black Lace – although whether he tries to impress the coaches with a verse of two of Agadoo remains to be seen.

8.25 The National Lottery: Win Your Wish List. Shane Richie hosts the game show in which two contestants answer questions to try to win each other's dream prizes. Including the lottery draws, presented by Gaby Roslin.

9.15 Casualty. Rita gets a shock when her ex-husband turns up at the hospital. Connie's daughter Grace goes missing, while Lofy deals with a patient who thinks her child is being abused.

10.05 BBC News: Weather.

10.25 Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights. Gabby Logan presents highlights of the fourth-round matches, including Birmingham City v West Bromwich Albion at St Andrews and Chelsea v Bradford City at Stamford Bridge; National Lottery Update.

11.55 The Football League Show. Manish Bhasin presents highlights and all the goals from the latest fixtures.

12.55 Film: Primeval. (2007) **2.25** Weather for the Week Ahead. **2.30** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 Film: San Demetrio, London. (1943) **7.35** Film: Angels One Five. (1953) **9.10** Fred Dibnah's Age of Steam. (R) **9.40** Fred Dibnah's Age of Steam. (R) **10.10** British Isles: A Natural History. (R) **11.00** FA Cup Rewind: Fourth-Round Classics. **12.00** James Martin: Home Comforts. (R) **12.30** The Churchill Obituary. **1.30** Great Britons. (R) **2.30** Live International Bowls. The World Indoor Championships. **4.30** Somerset: After the Floods. (R) **5.30** Flog It!

6.30 Porridge. (R)

7.00 The Two Ronnies Sketchbook. Ronnie Corbett and Ronnie Barker present another selection of favourite monologues, musical numbers and sketches, including the classic Fork Handles. Last in the series. (R)

7.30 Ronnie Barker: The Many Faces Of. The story of a quiet, dedicated man who might have been a bank manager, but went on to become one of the nation's most popular comedy stars. Ben Elton, Michael Grade, David Renwick and Josephine Tewson are among friends and colleagues who remember his partnership with Ronnie Corbett in sketch show The Two Ronnies, as skintight grocer Arkwright in Open All Hours and crafty prisoner Fletch in Porridge. There is also a look at his prolific writing career and his work as an actor in serious roles. (R)

8.30 The Two Ronnies: The Studio Recordings. A collection of unedited takes from the classic comedy show, featuring both famous and more obscure sketches from programmes recorded in 1979 and 1980. (R)

9.00 Holbein: Eye of the Tudors – A Culture Show Special. Waldemar Januszczak looks at the life and career of Henry VIII's court artist Hans Holbein, exploring where he came from and examining the unsettling secrets hidden in his work.

10.00 Film: The Artist. (2011) A 1920s movie actor gives an actress her big break, but his career suffers with the advent of sound. Oscar-winning silent drama, starring Jean Dujardin and Bérénice Bejo.

11.35 International Bowls. The World Indoor Championships. Highlights of the Open Singles semi-finals.

12.35 Film: Thirteen Days. (2000) **2.50** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knockers Street. **6.10** Bottom Knockers Street. (R) **6.20** Bottom Knockers Street. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan. (R) **7.00** Animals. (R) **7.10** Sooty. (R) **7.25** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.30** Scrambled! Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled! Nerts & Monsters. (R) **7.50** Scrambled! Adventure Time. **8.30** Scrambled! Horrid Henry. (R) **8.50** Scrambled! Hulk and the Agents of Smash. **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **10.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **11.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **12.25** ITV News: Weather. **12.35** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **1.35** The Undrivables. (R) **2.05** Who's Doing the Dishes? (R) **3.05** Doc Martin. (R) **4.05** Big Star's Little Star. (R)

5.05 Regional Programme: Weather. **5.15** ITV News: Weather. **5.30** You've Been Framed! Top 100 Senior Moments. (R)

6.30 Planet's Got Talent. Highlights from the global Got Talent franchise, including a Michael Jackson-themed diablo juggler, a farmyard animal impressionist and a moped stuntwoman.

7.00 Harry Hill's Stars in Their Eyes. A sales assistant, a senior manager of a tanning salon chain, a children's singing tutor, a mother and a student impersonate famous singers as they vie for a place in the final.

8.05 Take Me Out. Sales consultant Lewis from Glasgow, strongman Archie from Wiltshire, toy designer Adam from Cornwall and model Scott from London vie for the attentions of 30 single women, intent on capturing their interest and securing a date. However, first they must get the female participants to keep their lights on as a sign of approval. Host Paddy McGuinness monitors their progress and reviews the dating action from last week's couples on the Isle of Fernandos.

9.20 The Jonathan Ross Show. New series. The host is joined by Take That, Kingsman: The Secret Service stars Colin Firth and Taron Egerton, actress Caroline Quentin and comedienne Katherine Ryan.

10.20 ITV News: Weather.

10.30 Film: Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason. (2004) Comedy sequel, starring Renee Zellweger, Colin Firth and Hugh Grant.

12.30 Jackpot247. **3.00** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **3.40** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.10 How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.35** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **7.00** Snowdon Race 2014. **7.55** The Morning Line. **9.00** The King of Queens. (R) **9.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **10.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **10.30** Frasier. (R) **11.00** Frasier. (R) **11.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.55** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.25** Speed with Guy Martin. (R) **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Cheltenham and Doncaster. **4.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.00** The Simpsons. (R) **5.30** The Simpsons. (R)

6.00 Channel 4 News.

6.30 The Restoration Man. A London couple have a dramatic vision for a wartime aerial control tower in the Highlands, but find the restoration of the 700 window panes swallows 40 per cent of their budget. (R)

7.30 Guy Martin's Spitfire. In May 1940, a Mark 1 Spitfire was shot down and crash-landed on a beach in northern France, where it slowly sank into the sand. The wreckage was finally recovered in the 1990s and stored in France for more than 20 years. Guy Martin joins a two-year project to rebuild the aeroplane, revealing the engineering and skills involved, and providing a fitting homage to the bravery of everyone involved in its service. (R)

9.00 Film: Holocaust: Night Will Fall. (2014) Premiere. In 1945, the Ministry of Information's Sidney Bernstein was commissioned to make a documentary that would provide undeniable evidence of the Nazis' crimes. He assembled a team of film-makers including Alfred Hitchcock to record the true horror of the concentration camps, but despite initial government support, the project was deemed too politically sensitive and never broadcast. Now, 70 years later, Bernstein's film has been restored and completed by the Imperial War Museum, and this programme tells the story of its creation. Narrated by Helena Bonham Carter.

10.20 Film: Unstoppable. (2010) Tony Scott's action thriller, with Denzel Washington and Chris Pine.

12.10 Film: The Departed. (2006) **2.45** Hollywood. (R) **5.00** SuperScribbles: Winter Survival Tips. (R) **5.55** NFL: Rush Zone.

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.35** Access. **10.40** Ice Road Truckers. (R) **11.35** Ice Road Truckers. (R) **12.30** Ice Road Truckers. (R) **1.25** Film: Columbo: Death Hits the Jackpot. (1991) Detective drama, with Peter Falk and Rip Torn. **3.25** Film: Columbo: Murder Under Glass. (1978) Crime drama, starring Peter Falk. **5.00** Film: Columbo: A Matter of Honour. (1976) Crime drama, starring Peter Falk.

6.25 Elvis by the Presleys. Tribute to Elvis Presley, featuring candid interviews with his ex-wife Priscilla and their daughter Lisa Marie, plus private photographs and home movies from the Presley archives, along with vintage performance material. The Presleys also offer personal insights into various aspects of Elvis's life, including his tours, time in Hollywood and personal relationships. (R)

8.05 Elvis – The 1968 Comeback Special. The singer's classic TV special, which saw him make a return to live performance after more than eight years away, with the show featuring an array of musical set-pieces, including a jam session with his old backing band and a mini-musical. Songs include Heartbreak Hotel, Hound Dog, All Shook Up, Jailhouse Rock, Don't Be Cruel, Love Me Tender, Trouble, Can't Help Falling in Love and Gospel Medley. (R)

9.05 5 News Weekend.

9.15 Celebrity Big Brother. Catching up with the celebrities as they react to Friday night's eviction, revealing how the departure has affected the remaining contestants – and whether the outcome of the public vote has anyone else fearing for their place in the competition.

10.15 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. New series. Julie discovers a bomb has been planted in her car, while DB gets a phone call demanding he confess to arresting the wrong man in a serial killer case.

11.15 Law & Order. New series. Cyrus Lupo returns to New York after four years abroad, and he and Green investigate two suicides that seem to be linked.

12.10 SuperCasino. **3.10** Celebrity Big Brother. (R) **4.00** House Doctor. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **5.15** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 Great Movie Mistakes **8.00** Top Gear **9.00** Film: Eagle Eye (2008) **10.50** Family Guy **1.55** Crims **2.25** Uncle

BBC Four

7.00 Serengeti: Unnatural Histories **8.00** Bright Lights, Brilliant Minds: A Tale of Three Cities **9.00** Spiral **10.55** Only Yesterday: The Carpenters' Story **11.55** Duets at the BBC **12.55** Top of the Pops: 1980 **1.30** Sounds of the 70s 2: Art House Glam – Get in the Swing **2.00** Bright Lights, Brilliant Minds: A Tale of Three Cities **3.00** Only Yesterday: The Carpenters' Story **4.00** Close

ITV2

1.15 The Cube: Celebrity Special **12.15** Film: Homeland Bound: The Incredible Journey (1993) **2.00** Funniest Ever You've Been Framed! **3.00** You've Been Framed! **4.35** Film: Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang (2010) **6.50** Film: Ocean's Thirteen (2007) **9.20** Take Me Out – The Gossip **10.05** Film: I Am Legend (2007) **12.00** Film: Couples Retreat (2009) **2.10** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.35** Pixie Lott: The Hot Desk **2.45** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

1.55 Wycliffe **3.05** Film: Carry On Loving (1970) **4.55** Agatha Christie's Marple **7.00** Doc Martin **8.00** Foyle's War **10.00** Lewis **12.05** Wycliffe **1.10** Bomb Girls **1.55** ITV3 Nightscreen

ITV4

1.35 Africa Cup of Nations Highlights **2.35** Film: Battle of the Bulge (1965) **5.50** Storage Wars **6.45** Storage Wars: Texas **7.45** Film: Driven (2001) **10.00** Film: 8 Mile (2002) **1.15** Film: South Park: Bigger, Longer & Uncut (1999) **2.35** Nitro Circus **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

11.35 New Girl **12.30** Melissa & Joey (1970) **4.55** Agatha Christie's Marple **7.00** Doc Martin **8.00** Foyle's War **10.00** Lewis **12.05** Wycliffe **1.10** Bomb Girls **1.55** ITV3 Nightscreen

Film4

11.00 Destination Gobi (1953) **1.00** The Three Musketeers (1993) **3.05** Carry On Up the Khyber (1968) **4.50** Only You (1994) **7.00** America's Sweethearts (2001) **9.00** Hitman (2007) **10.50** In Fear (2013) **12.30** Scary Movie (2000) **2.10** Basket Case 3 (1992) **3.55** Close

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CHOICE



Mr Selfridge (ITV, 9pm)
For newcomers, this returning drama is inspired by the life of charismatic American entrepreneur, Harry Gordon Selfridge and series three picks up in 1919, just after the end of the First World War. There's no shortage of familiar faces joining the cast, including Zoë Wanamaker (My Family) as Russian Princess Marie de Bolotoff; Rosalie Selfridge is played by Kara Tointon (EastEnders) and Kara's sister, Hannah, plays her rebellious sibling, Violette. In the first of the new run, the shadow of war is brightened by a wedding as Harry's eldest daughter, Rosalie, ties the knot with Princess Marie's handsome son Serge (Leon Ockenden).

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 7.30 Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights. (R) 9.00 The Andrew Marr Show. 10.00 The Big Questions. 11.00 Sunday Politics. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News; Weather. 1.15 Match of the Day Live. Bristol City v West Ham United (Kick-off 2.00pm). 4.05 Escape to the Country. (R) 4.35 Songs of Praise. 5.10 Nature's Boldest Thieves. 6.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather. 6.30 Countryside. The team is in the Highlands of Scotland, following in the footsteps of Robert Burns. John Craven is at the Falls of Foyers on the banks of Loch Ness, finding out about the poet's Highland town and how the area is such a stronghold for the elusive red squirrel. He also visits Killisnoe, where he meets a fiddle player inspired by a contemporary of Burns. Ellie Harrison speaks to photographers and poets who take inspiration from the landscape, and heads into the Cairngorms, where she learns to drive a pony and carriage. Plus, Tom Heap investigates the problem of food poisoning from chickens. 7.30 Still Open All Hours. A few mysterious goings-on in the shop convince Grangeville the place is haunted by Arkwright, and a surprise visitor from the past gets the entire street talking. Last in the series. 8.00 Call the Midwife. Barbara treats a first-time mother, but the birth does not go according to plan. Sister Julianne worries about Nonnatus House's financial problems, and a new nurse arrives. 9.00 Last Tango in Halifax. Caroline receives a worrying phone call to say the police have baby Flora and her nanny Holly is in the cells. Gillian is angry when Gary offers to pay for her wedding. 10.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather. 10.30 Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights. Mark Chapman presents action from the latest fourth-round matches. 11.30 The Apprentice USA. Surviving candidates Meat Loaf, Marlee Matlin, Dionne Warwick and others are tasked with creating an advert for a new videophone. 12.55 Weather for the Week Ahead. 1.00 BBC News.

BBC2

6.15 Great British Garden Revival. (R) 7.15 Glorious Gardens from Above. (R) 8.00 Countryside. (R) 9.00 The Football League Show. (R) 10.00 FA Cup Rewind: Fourth-Round Classics. 11.00 Saturday Kitchen Best Bits. 12.30 James Martin's Food Map of Britain. (R) 12.45 Film: The Long and the Short and the Tall. (1960) Second World War drama, starring Laurence Harvey. 2.30 Live International Bowls. The World Indoor Championships. 5.15 Ski Sunday. 6.00 Film: Real Steel. (2011) Premiere. In the future, boxing matches between eight-foot robots are one of the world's biggest sporting draws. A washed-up human prizefighter finds an abandoned android and sets about restoring it to and against a potential champion, a project that reunites him with his estranged 11-year-old son. Sci-fi drama, starring Hugh Jackman, Dakota Goyo and Evangeline Lilly. Edited for daytime broadcast. 8.00 Top Gear. New series. Jeremy Clarkson, Richard Hammond and James May are in Russia as the motoring magazine returns, taking part in a race across the urban landscape of St Petersburg. James defends the honour of the car in a very small Renault, Richard tries to prove that pedalling is faster by riding a bicycle, while Jeremy attempts to demonstrate that water is the quickest way across town by piloting a hovercraft. To make matters more complicated, all three presenters are racing not only one another but also the Stig, who is making his way toward the finish line by public transport. Plus, the new Lamborghini Huracan is put through its paces and a celebrity takes to the test track for Star in a Reasonably Priced Car. 9.00 Dragons' Den. The business ideas contest returns after a mid-series break, with Kelly Hoppen, Piers Linney, Peter Jones, Deborah Meaden and Duncan Bannatyne evaluating more pitches. 10.00 Film: Shadow Dancer. (2012) Premiere. Thriller, starring Andrea Riseborough, Clive Owen and Gillian Anderson. 11.35 Billionaire's Paradise: Inside Necker Island. (R) 12.35 Sign Zone: Countryside. (R) 1.30 Holby City. (R) 2.30 This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knockers Street. 6.10 Bottom Knockers Street. (R) 6.20 Bottom Knockers Street. (R) 6.35 Dino Dan. (R) 6.45 Dino Dan. (R) 7.00 Animals. (R) 7.10 Sooty. (R) 7.25 Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) 7.30 Scrambled!: Scrambled! 7.35 Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters. (R) 7.50 Scrambled!: Ultimate Spider-Man. 8.30 Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. (R) 8.50 Scrambled!: Deadtime Stories. (R) 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 10.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 11.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 12.35 ITV News; Weather. 12.40 Harry Hill's Stars in Their Eyes. (R) 1.35 Catchphrase. (R) 2.20 Midsummer Murders. (R) 4.15 Film: The Man with the Golden Gun. (1974) 6.35 Regional Programme; Weather. 6.45 ITV News; Weather. 7.00 Get Your Act Together. Actor Nigel Havers, 1980s pop star Sinitta, TV presenter Gabby Roslin, comedian Rufus Hound and rapper Chip are paired with leading variety acts to compete for a place in the final. 8.15 All Star Family Fortunes. New series. Hairy Biker Dave Myers and Coronation Street's Jack P Shepherd team up with their families in an attempt to win a jackpot of £30,000 for charity. Vernon Kay hosts. 9.00 Mr Selfridge. New series. Harry is grief-stricken as the family gathers for Rose's funeral, but nine months later and the Selfridges are in high spirits at Rosalie's wedding to a Russian aviator. 10.00 ITV News; Weather. 10.20 Churchill: 100 Days That Saved Britain. Drama-documentary drawing on letters, diaries and the testimony of Winston Churchill's personal physician to depict his triumphant first three months as prime minister in 1940. 11.20 The Undriveables. A woman who hates going above 30mph tries to get up to speed, while a man with spatial awareness issues struggles to get a feel of the width of his car. (R) 11.50 The Chase. Bradley Walsh presents as four contestants answer general knowledge questions and work as a team to take on ruthless quiz genius the Chaser and secure a cash prize. (R) 12.45 The Store. 2.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) 3.10 ITV Nightscreen. 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.20 How I Met Your Mother. (R) 6.45 How I Met Your Mother. (R) 7.10 How I Met Your Mother. (R) 7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Frasier. (R) 8.55 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Sunday Brunch. 12.30 Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast. (R) 1.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 1.55 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 2.25 The Simpsons. (R) 2.55 The Simpsons. (R) 3.30 Film: Maid in Manhattan. (2002) Romantic comedy, with Jennifer Lopez. 5.35 Channel 4 News. 6.00 A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun. Mike and Louan McGrane have long dreamt of moving to the Caribbean and have chosen the idyllic Cayman Islands as the perfect place for a relocation in five years' time. With a budget of £250,000, Jonnie Irwin sets about showing them five properties that fit the bill. 7.00 Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. Phil Spencer seeks buyers for two shabby semis in the north of England. Former cabbie Allan wants to move out of his family home of 33 years in Gosforth, Newcastle, while Dawn and Daz are surprised their house in Ripponden, West Yorkshire, is having trouble selling, until the property expert points out their bare walls, dodgy dogs, dark decor and rather risqué artworks. 8.00 The Hotel. Mark decides to bring Torquay's Gay Pride to the Cavendish, hoping the event will be highly profitable, but to guarantee a big crowd he needs to book a headlining celebrity. 9.00 Walking the Nile. Reaching his final country, Egypt, Levison's journey takes him through strongholds for the Muslim Brotherhood opposition group, where security must be tightened. Last in the series. 10.00 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown. Team captains Sean Lock and Jon Richardson are joined by Reginald D Hunter and Aisling Bea, while Holly Walsh is in Dictionary Corner with Susie Dent. Jimmy Carr hosts. (R) 11.05 Film: Evil Dead. (2013) Premiere. Horror remake, with Jane Levy. 12.55 The Last Leg. (R) 1.50 Film: Joe Somebody. (2001) 3.30 Kirstie's Best of Both Worlds. (R) 4.25 River Cottage Bites. (R) 4.35 SuperScrimpers. (R) 5.05 SuperScrimpers 2013 Resolutions. (R) 5.30 Face the Clock. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. 6.05 Roary the Racing Car. (R) 6.15 Angelina Ballerina. (R) 6.30 Pip Ahoy! (R) 6.40 The Mr Men Show. (R) 6.55 Chloe's Closet. 7.05 Only the Little White Van. (R) 7.10 Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) 7.25 Make Way for Maddy. (R) 7.35 Paw Patrol. (R) 7.55 Little Princess. (R) 8.05 The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) 8.20 Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) 8.25 Wanda and the Alien. 8.30 Milkshake! Pop Box. (R) 8.40 Zack and Quack. (R) 8.55 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) 9.10 Jelly Jamm. (R) 9.30 LazyTown. (R) 10.00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) 10.35 Access. (R) 10.50 The Hotel Inspector. (R) 11.45 The Hotel Inspector. (R) 12.45 The Hotel Inspector. (R) 1.40 Film: Dudley Do-Right. (1999) Comedy, starring Brendan Fraser. 3.20 Film: Cheaper By the Dozen 2. (2005) Comedy sequel, starring Steve Martin. 5.05 Film: Zookeeper. (2011) Comedy, starring Kevin James. 7.00 Film: Bulletproof Monk. (2003) A mysterious Tibetan monk is entrusted with protecting an ancient and mystical scroll. As modern-day Nazis seek out the relic in a bid to resurrect the Third Reich, the monk searches for a suitable successor to take over his task – and a pickpocket is the unlikely choice. Martial arts thriller, starring Chow Yun-Fat, Seann William Scott, Jaime King, Victoria Smurfit and Karel Roden. Edited for violence. 8.55 5 News Weekend. 9.00 Celebrity Big Brother. The ups and downs of life in the BB house as friendships and alliances are made, battle lines are drawn and arguments erupt. 10.00 Film: The Darkest Hour. (2011) Premiere. Two software entrepreneurs on a business trip to Moscow get caught up in an invasion by a race of invisible aliens. Sci-fi horror, with Emile Hirsch and Olivia Thirlby. 11.45 Cats Do the Funniest Things. Compilation of internet videos, including cats playing musical instruments, dressed in costumes and riding on vacuum cleaners. Narrated by Iain Lee, with commentary by Susan Calman. 12.45 Car Crash TV. (R) 1.15 SuperCasino. 3.10 Storage: Flog the Lot! (R) 4.00 House Doctor. (R) 4.25 Make It Big. (R) 5.15 Angels of Jarm. (R) 5.40 Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Pop's Greatest Dance Crazes 7.30 The Voice UK 9.00 Backchat with Jack Whitehall and His Dad 9.30 Russell Howard's Good News 10.00 Family Guy 10.45 Crims 11.15 Family Guy 12.05 Backchat with Jack Whitehall and His Dad 12.35 Russell Howard's Good News 1.05 Bangkok Airport 2.00 Crims 3.30 Sweat the Small Stuff 3.00 Bangkok Airport
BBC Four
7.00 Shoah: First Era 11.25 Sound of Song 12.25 Elvis: That's All Right 60 Years On 1.25 The Beatles' Please Please Me – Remaking a Classic 2.20 The Heart of Country: How Nashville Became Music City USA 3.50 Close
ITV2
11.50 Take Me Out 1.00 Take Me Out – The Gossip 1.45 Film: Homeland Bound II: Lost in San Francisco (1996) 3.35 Film: E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial (1982) 5.50 Film: Along Came Polly (2004) 7.35 Film: The Mummy (1999) 10.00 Film: The Hangover (2009) 12.05 Film: The Invention of Lying (2009) 2.00 Life's Funniest Moments 2.25 Teleshopping 5.55 ITV2 Nightscreen
ITV3
1.50 Film: The Great St Trinian's Train Robbery (1966) 3.45 Rosemary & Thyme 4.45 Inspector Morse 7.00 Lewis 9.00 Les Dawson: An Audience With Never Was 10.00 Northern Lights 11.05 Lewis 1.05 The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes 2.05 Judge Judy 2.45 Countrywise 3.40 Emmerdale
ITV4
1.15 Counting Cars 2.10 Pawn Stars 4.30 Africa Cup of Nations Highlights 5.30 Africa Cup of Nations Live 8.30 Pawn Stars 9.00 Film: The Day of the Jackal (1973) 11.55 River Monsters: Untold Stories 1.00 Hell on Wheels 1.55 The Cycle Show 2.50 ITV4 Nightscreen
E4
12.30 Revenge 1.30 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD 2.30 The 100 3.30 Melissa & Joey 4.30 The Big Bang Theory 5.30 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 6.00 Marry Me 6.30 The Big Bang Theory 8.00 Film: A Knight's Tale (2001) 10.35 The Inbetweeners 11.45 Rude Tube 12.50 The Cleveland Show 1.50 Rules of Engagement 2.40 One Tree Hill 3.20 Hollywoods
Film4
11.00 Laughter in Paradise (1951) 1.00 Mirror Mirror (2012) 3.05 The Golden Child (1986) 4.55 Holy Man (1998) 7.15 The Simpsons Movie (2007) 9.00 Safe House (2012) 11.15 Aguirre, the Wrath of God (1972) 1.15 Undefeated (2011)

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Ingrid Oliver is Myrtle Mae Simmons
David Bamber is William R. Chumley

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MONDAY

Mrs Miniver, BBC2, 3.05pm
A British housewife's settled existence is thrown into upheaval by the outbreak of the Second World War, as her husband and eldest son are called up and her small town is devastated by bombing. She spiritedly tries to make the best of things, looking after local children, watching over her youngest son's love life and capturing an enemy airman. Drama based on Jan Struther's book, starring an Oscar-winning Greer Garson, with Walter Pidgeon. (1942)

TUESDAY

The Wooden Horse, BBC2, 3.35pm
British PoWs in a German camp try to escape their captors by taking up gymnastics, and using a vaulting horse to conceal the tunnel they are digging. However, even if they manage to escape the camp, the journey to neutral territory will not be an easy one. Fact-based Second World War drama, starring Leo Genn, David Tomlinson, Anthony Steel and David Greene. (1950)



Shaun of the Dead, Friday, ITV, 10.40pm

WEDNESDAY

he Mexican, BBC1, 12am
A petty crook finds himself in a tricky situation when he tries to smuggle an antique gun from Mexico into America for his Mob boss. Comedy thriller directed by Gore Verbinski, with Brad Pitt, Julia Roberts, James Gandolfini, Gene Hackman and JK Simmons. (2001)

THURSDAY

Return from the River Kwai, BBC2, 3.40pm
An American pilot is shot down over Japanese-occupied Thailand. He joins a unit of guerrillas in the hope of escaping – but they end up battling to rescue a troop of starving Allied PoWs. Second World War drama sequel, starring Chris Penn, Edward Fox, Denholm Elliott, George Takei, Timothy Bottoms and Tatsuya Nakadai. (1988)

FRIDAY

Shaun of the Dead, ITV, 10.40pm
An unambitious 29-year-old man trapped in the job from hell and recently dumped decides to get his life back on track. Unfortunately, he has to put his plans on hold when zombies rise from their graves and stalk the streets of London's suburbs to feast on the living. Comedy horror, starring Simon Pegg, Nick Frost, Kate Ashfield, Dylan Moran, Lucy Davis, Bill Nighy and Penelope Wilton. (2004)

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PICK OF THE WEEK

Dominic and the team are righting the wrongs

Dominic Littlewood is not a man to be messed with. Okay, sometimes his accent is so thick it sounds like he's speaking in a foreign tongue, but when it comes to catching out shifty builders, rogue traders and common tricksters, he certainly knows what he's doing.

It's a sad fact that there are too many instances in this country of folk being ripped off by people using forgery and fraud, although the silver lining is that surely it has to be a considerable amount fewer than 15 years ago – when Dominic first got into the television industry.

In this new series for ITV, Dominic is doing what he does best – confronting bad builders, meeting the people whose lives have been ruined by dodgy contractors, and, with the help of builder Chris Payne and designer Pippa Jameson, fixing up their homes and making them liveable again.

"Bad Builders Bang to Rights is a series where I investigate consumer complaints about bad tradesmen," Dominic explains. "It's not just about builders, it can be anyone involved in the industry, who is relied upon to sort out problems in your home."

"When we start getting complaints about a particular person or company, then I start doing some investigation

If we find they are doing things badly and they are not really showing respect to people, we gather evidence and then we write to them.

We normally write to them on quite a few occasions and ask them to give us their opinion on what's been going on as obviously it's only fair to give them a right to reply and there might be a justifiable reason to why they have done what they've done."

But as confident as Dominic can be, he admits that it can be a nerve-racking situation.

When confronting these dodgy builders, he says: "You never know what's going to happen in that scenario. They could get violent, they could get threatening, they could run, argue, they could ignore you, spit at you, punch you – you never know what's going to happen."

"But for me because I know so much about them I really want to challenge them on behalf of the victims and other members of the public."

In this first programme, Dominic and the team come to the aid of pensioner Betty Hall and her son Trevor, whose house resembles a building site.

Betty was widowed seven years ago, at a similar time when son Trevor was going through a divorce, so they decided to move in together.

They settled on a ramshackle old house in Walberton, West Sussex, and employed a local building firm to help with fixing it up.

However, almost a year after work on their dream home started – after months of delays and having paid substantially more than the contract price – work ground to a halt, forcing Betty and Trevor to sack the builders – but they had to spend another £20,000 simply to make the house liveable. But Dominic finds them living in terrible conditions, with no central heating or a fully functioning kitchen, with incomplete bedrooms and bathrooms.

As Pippa and Chris set about getting neighbours and friends involved in transforming the house in two weeks, can Dominic get answers from the builders responsible?



Bad Builders – Bang to Rights, Tuesday, ITV, 8pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY
Broadchurch
ITV, 9pm

Last week, Hardy faced a race against time as Ellie discovered a startling new piece of evidence, forcing them to reassess their suspicions. Now, as the acclaimed mystery drama reaches the halfway point, Miller is struggling to control her sister Lucy amid family tensions, Alec must confront his demons, and Mark Latimer has to make a decision. Viewers can expect many more twists and turns as the story builds toward a dramatic conclusion. David Tennant and Olivia Colman star.

Catastrophe
Channel 4, 10pm

First episodes of sitcoms rarely go down well with audiences – Fawlty Towers received an extraordinary amount of criticism when it first aired, and yet is now regarded as a classic. So it's unusual for one to hit the ground running – which is why Sharon Horgan and Rob Delaney deserve plenty of plaudits after last week's great opening edition. It introduced us to the characters they've both created and play who are, funnily enough, called Sharon and Rob. Well, at least they won't get confused. This time around, pregnant Sharon is trying hard to get to grips with the idea of Rob living with her – and her brother Fergal isn't exactly helping the situation.

TUESDAY
Touched by Auschwitz
BBC2, 9pm

Feature-length documentary marking the 70th anniversary of the liberation of the concentration camp by Red Army troops. Laurence Rees travels to Jerusalem, Chicago, London, Bavaria, Krakow and Tel Aviv to talk to six survivors, along with their friends and families, who discuss the problems, challenges and triumphs they have experienced since the end of the Second World War. Among those interviewed are Tadeusz, who became a doctor but still had to fight persecution by communists in Poland, and Hermann, who went on to become a successful antiques dealer in Bavaria, but still suffers from recurring nightmares.

Paul O'Grady's Animal Orphans
ITV, 9pm

The comedian and animal lover continues on his mission to help hand-rear animals orphaned in the wild across South Africa, Namibia and Zambia, and this week he gets a welcome blast from the past. Viewers may recall last year's first series, which saw Paul help adorable elephant calf Nkala. Well, during tonight's instalment of his latest trip, he's reunited with his old friend.

WEDNESDAY
Midsomer Murders
ITV, 8pm

New series. Return of the long-running mystery drama, starring Neil Dudgeon and Gwilym Lee. At the Luxton Deeping Crime Festival, the unveiling of a newly discovered novel by deceased Midsomer crime writer George Summersbee is jeopardised when the manuscript is stolen and local artist Suzie Colebrooke is electrocuted by a booby-trapped roulette wheel. Can new father Barnaby untangle a web of jealousy and find the killer?

Wolf Hall

BBC2, 9pm
Anne Boleyn summons Cromwell, anxious to know whether she has an ally in him, and he witnesses her venting her frustrations on her ladies-in-waiting. The king starts to take notice of Cromwell and comes to rely on the lawyer's advice, but then news arrives from York that Cardinal Wolsey has been arrested by Harry Percy, a vengeful act for denying his betrothal to Anne.

THURSDAY
Eat Well for Less
BBC1, 8pm

New series. MasterChef judge Gregg Wallace and greengrocer Chris Bavin set out to help families with their food shopping, showing them simple and effective ways to save money on their current bill. First up are the Booths from Lancashire. Mum Jenny claims to be cautious at the supermarket, always looking out for the best deals, but dad Howard's impulse buys mean they always end up paying more than they should. Now they want to save £40 a week so they can build a home extension.

FRIDAY
The Musketeers
BBC1, 9pm

The king sends the swordsmen to talk to prophet Emille of Duras, who is raising an army to march on Spain as a result of visions she claims to have received from God. It's clear she and her followers pose a danger, and as anti-Spanish riots begin, Aramis is chosen to return to her camp and discredit the woman - before she pushes France into an ill-timed war with its neighbouring country. Meanwhile, Rochefort continues to clash with Ambassador Perales, and resorts to blackmail and murder to resolve the problem.

Midsomer Murders, Wednesday, ITV, 8pm

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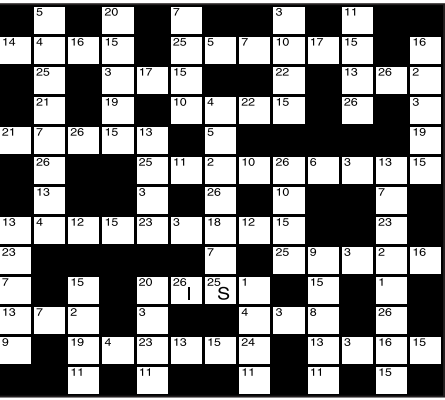
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Classified Ads

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	A	T	C	N	W	P	F	R	M	K	S	V	O
14	I	Y	J	B	E	Q	X	L	D	H	G	Z	U

1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

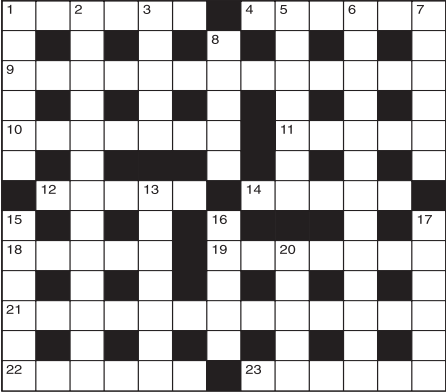
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- 1. Nowhere near being unapproachable (6)
- 4. Fits and starts (6)
- 9. A seat not in sun provided in a moment (13)
- 10. One would feel put out to be treated so (7)
- 11. Leaps into indiscretion (5)
- 12. Support the employees (5)
- 14. Written in a lofty pedantic style (5)
- 18. Free from fault (5)
- 19. Assimilates summaries (7)
- 21. A refreshing movement in the air (7,6)
- 22. Pete gets round it, being small (6)
- 23. Stays to give personal support (6)

Down

- 1. Was abusive, yet guarded? (6)
- 2. Sent the application off too late to get the appointment? (6,3,4)
- 3. It's drunk to a saint (5)
- 5. Fine kick on the football field (7)
- 6. The ultimate in intelligence (4-5,4)
- 7. She won't be the only child in the ward (6)
- 8. Room could easily become dusty (5)
- 13. His fancies rarely last (7)
- 15. Domestic storm centre (3-3)
- 16. Present day maxim (5)
- 17. Rising, like foreign currency (6)
- 20. Film actress in the dress circle (5)



Quick Clues:

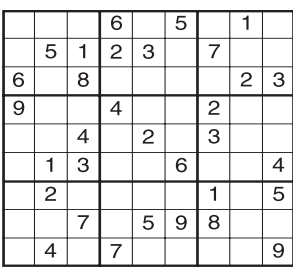
Across

- 1. Ecstasy (6)
- 4. Harvested (6)
- 9. Refilling (13)
- 10. Stupid (7)
- 11. Necessarily (5)
- 12. Collier (5)
- 14. Deserve (5)
- 18. Cook (5)
- 19. Atrocious act (7)
- 21. Sparkling (13)
- 22. Vocalist (6)
- 23. Dive (6)

Down

- 1. Lethargic (6)
- 2. Enlargement (13)
- 3. Coffey (5)
- 5. Add to (7)
- 6. Forethought (13)
- 7. Hate (6)
- 8. Flinch (5)
- 13. Give right to (7)
- 15. Emergency (6)
- 16. Shed feathers (5)
- 17. Alliance (6)
- 20. Track (5)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

2	3	9	6	4	8	7	1	5
5	8	7	2	3	1	4	6	9
1	6	4	9	7	5	2	8	3
8	4	2	5	1	7	3	9	6
3	1	6	8	2	9	7	4	5
9	7	5	4	6	3	8	1	2
6	2	3	7	9	4	1	5	8
4	9	8	1	5	2	6	3	7
7	5	1	3	8	6	9	2	4

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Pitch and loss; 7 Towns; 8 Alone; 9 Tot; 10 Sleep well; 11 Errata; 12 Detain; 15 Entertain; 17 Eli; 18 Attic; 19 Kneel; 21 Red letter day. Down: 1 Polythene bag; 2 How; 3 Nested; 4 Trample on; 5 Score; 6 Well on his way; 7 Tutor; 10 Satirical; 13 Agent; 14 Packet; 16 Trite; 20 Eve. QUICK - Across: 1 Circumstance; 7 Tenor; 8 Robin; 9 Eye; 10 Emergence; 11 Putrid; 12 Stress; 15 Unsettled; 17 Tin; 18 Union; 19 Glory; 21 Invertebrate. Down: 1 Contemptuous; 2 Urn; 3 Street; 4 Abrogated; 5 Cabin; 6 Unreasonable; 7 Treat; 10 Existence; 13 Entry; 14 Plight; 16 Scion; 20 Orb.

Quiz

- 1. Which member of Mrs Thatcher's cabinet was a former airline pilot?
- 2. Which tree's Latin name is Juglans regia?
- 3. Who plays Woody Allen's wife in Manhattan Murder Mystery?
- 4. How do we know the rich vitamin B source Saccharomyces cerevisiae?
- 5. Which organisation was founded by Chad Varah in 1953?
- 6. By what name is the Fairs Cup now known?
- 7. What are studied by palaeontologists?
- 8. Which martial art uses bamboo replicas of samurai swords?
- 9. Which Scotland Yard detective led the hunt for Ronnie Biggs?
- 10. Which US state's capital is Springfield?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Starling; 2 Harry S Truman; 3 Harold Pinter; 4 Tours; 5 Elizabeth I; 6 Thrush; 7 Man Ray; 8 Topography; 9 Derek Lewis; 10 Sir Matt Busby. Niner: MONASTERY

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

159	gives a bird,
67284	gives another bird,
1235	gives an animal.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



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Three homes converted into a spacious cottage



SPINDLE Cottage at Dayhouse Bank, Romsley, near Halesowen, is a charming and spacious family home.

Believed to date back to the 1870s it was once three nailers cottages. It is for sale through Andrew Grant at £379,950. Many rooms having delightful countryside views.

At the heart of the home is an open plan kitchen/dining/living area with appliances including a range cooker plus solid oak worktops.

The drawing room is elegant, with an open fire. A second sitting room would make a lovely home office/teenagers den. There is also a hallway and laundry/WC.

Upstairs are three double bedrooms and a large family bathroom.

A long driveway leads to a double garage and there are gardens with decking.

For further details contact Andrew Grant on 01527 579977 or visit www.andrew-grant.co.uk



Six-bedroom house near to town centre

A MODERN six-bedroomed detached property in Dudley Street, West Bromwich, is within walking distance of the town centre. It is for sale via Paul Dubberley at £255,000.

It has an entrance hall, WC, a lounge with a feature fireplace, wood flooring and double doors to the dining room, conservatory with a tiled floor, a kitchen with a steel double oven, hob and extractor, dishwasher and fridge, wall and a tiled floor.

The first floor has bedrooms one and two with wardrobes, a third bedroom and bedroom four with a wardrobe, a bathroom including a P shaped bath and shower. Bedrooms five and six, including wardrobe, are on the second floor.

There is a garage and a spacious rear garden. For more details call 0121 5252111 or visit the website www.pauldubberley.co.uk



SWINSCOES

Sedgley
01902 672274
sales@swinscoes.co.uk

COSELEY

Greensad Drive

- * A FIVE bedroom detached
- * Fully extended and enhanced
- * Landscaped rear garden
- * Open plan style lounge
- * Dining Room, Conservatory
- * Nursery/Office and En-suite
- * Large garage ideal for 'Granny Flat'
- * Parking for 3/4 cars plus Caravan
- * EPC Rating - D

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £118,990

DUDLEY

Yarnor Close

- * A well presented DETACHED
- * Sought after Miling Bank address
- * Lounge and dining room
- * Kitchen and utility room
- * FOUR bedrooms
- * En-suite and house bathroom
- * Garage and driveway
- * EPC Rating - C

£279,950

COSELEY

Upper Ettingshall Road

- * Presenting a DETACHED property
- * Popular residential area
- * In need of some modernisation
- * Lounge AND dining room
- * Kitchen & bathroom on the ground floor
- * TWO bedrooms
- * Fully Upvc double glazed,
- * A garage and driveway parking
- * EPC Rating - D

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £177,990

ETTINGSHALL PARK

Cowesdale Road

- * A MODERN three bedroom semi
- * Enhanced & upgraded throughout
- * Kitchen, utility & guest wc
- * THREE bedrooms
- * Dining room
- * Fabulous rear garden
- * Offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN
- * EPC Rating - C

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £169,950

SEDGLEY

Brownwell Road

- * A traditional style Semi-detached
- * Ever popular Brownwell Estate
- * Open plan style lounge/dining
- * THREE bedrooms
- * good size tandem garage
- * Beautiful rear gardens
- * VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED
- * EPC Rating - D

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £150,950

COSELEY

Butenworth Close

- * A MODERN style semi-detached
- * Pleasant cul-de-sac location
- * Ideal FAMILY HOME
- * Lounge * Kitchen
- * THREE bedrooms
- * Full UPVC double glazing
- * Gas centrally heated
- * Garage and driveway for 3/4 cars
- * EPC Rating - TBC

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £145,990

COSELEY

Haseacre Lane

- * A beautifully presented semi-detached
- * In easy access to Cosely Train Station
- * Lounge & dining room
- * Kitchen & Utility room
- * THREE bedrooms
- * Garage and driveway parking
- * Excellent size private rear garden
- * Viewing highly recommended
- * EPC Rating - E

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £144,990

WOLVERHAMPTON

Wolverhampton Road East

- * A WELL PRESENTED semi-detached
- * Centrally located for Wtton & Sedgley
- * Lounge and dining room
- * Kitchen and utility room
- * THREE bedrooms
- * Secure OFF ROAD PARKING to rear
- * An ideal family home
- * EPC Rating - D

£140,990

UPPER GORNAL

Elm Lane

- * A traditional THREE bed semi
- * Having been fully renovated
- * Open plan EXTENDED kitchen
- * Brand new kitchen and bathroom
- * Upvc double glazed throughout
- * Gas centrally heated
- * NO UPWARD CHAIN
- * EPC Rating - D

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £136,980

SEDGLEY

Lime Road

- * A traditional double fronted terrace
- * Close by to Sedgley town centre
- * Lounge and open plan kitchen
- * Conservatory
- * THREE bedrooms
- * Pleasant rear garden
- * Driveway parking for 2/3 cars
- * EPC Rating - D

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £134,950

COSELEY

Beach Avenue

- * A well presented DORMER Bungalow
- * Popular residential area
- * Open plan dining kitchen
- * Lounge and downstairs bathroom
- * Two bedrooms and en-suite
- * Garden to the front and rear
- * VIEWING IS RECOMMENDED
- * EPC Rating - D

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £124,990

LOWER GORNAL

Westlons Drive

- * A beautifully presented mid terrace
- * Lounge & dining kitchen
- * Two double bedrooms
- * Modern bathroom
- * Off road parking for two vehicles
- * Private rear garden
- * An ideal first time buy
- * EPC Rating - C

OFFERS OVER £130,990



Five-bedroomed detached home at head of cul-de-sac

SPACIOUS five-bedroomed detached house, The Lawley, Halesowen, is at the head of a cul-de-sac on a popular development called 'The Squirrels'. It is for sale through Hicks Hadley at £279,950 with no chain.

With gas central heating and double glazing it has a spacious lounge with fireplace, fitted dining kitchen with range cooker, storage cupboard and patio doors to the conservatory, utility room, WC, conservatory, bedroom one with cupboards, bedroom two, an L-shaped bathroom, bedroom four/study with laminate-style flooring, bedroom five, a further bathroom. There is a garage, gardens and a driveway. For details call 01562 510440 or visit www.hickshadley.com



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• With potential for alternative uses or any redevelopment subject to obtaining any necessary planning permission.
• Gross Site Area 0.23 Acres (0.09 Hectares) or thereabouts

Mace Street, Cradley Heath, West Midlands



FOR SALE
Freehold Former Social Club
• With potential for alternative uses or any redevelopment subject to obtaining any necessary planning permission.
• Gross Site Area 0.69 Acres (0.28 Hectares) or thereabouts

66 Station Road, Whitacre Heath, Coleshill

K.Stuart Swash

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OPEN VIEWING

Eardington Manor & Coach House, Bridgnorth
A stunning Georgian country manor with a self-contained detached coach house surrounded by beautiful landscaped gardens extending to approximately 4.5 acres including an orchard, paddock, stables, outbuildings and a swimming pool. Of grand proportions the living accommodation includes four reception rooms, guest cloakroom, utility, kitchen, pantry and a selection of cellars. To the first floor are six bedrooms and three bathroom rooms. Second floor offers a further six bedrooms. BRIDGNORTH OFFICE.

OPEN VIEWING SATURDAY 31ST JANUARY 11AM - 1PM

Guide Price £1,350,000



Glazeley Manor, Glazeley, Bridgnorth
A unique opportunity to own a substantial residence Glazeley Manor offers over 5,500 sq ft of accommodation with scope to improve. The well proportioned accommodation comprises 9 bedrooms, 4 reception rooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 stables, summer house, outdoor swimming pool and 6.5 acres of land. NO CHAIN. (EPC:F) BRIDGNORTH OFFICE.

Guide Price £715,000



Ashcroft, 154 Broad Lanes, Six Ashes
An enviable location for a very desirable three bedroom detached dormer bungalow, enjoying far reaching views over the Shropshire Hills, only a short distance from Bridgnorth with a small paddock. Entrance hall, guest WC, large dining kitchen, living room, two ground floor bedrooms and bathroom. First floor double bedroom and dressing room. Detached double garage with utility, boiler room and store. (EPC:E) BRIDGNORTH OFFICE.

Guide Price £475,000



The Nook, The Green, Trysull

In the heart of this picturesque South Staffordshire village, The Nook is accessed from the Village Green and has been deceptively extended into a large, contemporary style three/four bedroom bungalow. Must be viewed. (EPC: D) WOMBOURNE OFFICE.

Guide Price Offers in excess of £449,500



6 Crockington Close, Seisdon

Three bedroom, detached bungalow situated within sought after village location. The property has been extended to the rear and offers flexible accommodation with the ability for further extensions, subject to local authority planning approval. With a lovely, private rear garden and views to the front the bungalow is worthy of an internal inspection for full appreciation. (EPC: D) WOMBOURNE OFFICE.

Guide Price £335,000



Jubilee Terrace, Cartway, Bridgnorth
In this fashionable High Town location, Jubilee Terrace forms three brand new highly desirable Georgian style town houses. Constructed to a high specification the contemporary accommodation includes open plan dining kitchen, utility and guest WC. First floor living room and guest bedroom. Second floor two further bedrooms, ensuite and house bathroom. Small courtyard and patio terrace. ONLY 2 REMAINING. (EPC: tbc) BRIDGNORTH OFFICE.

Guide Price £249,950



Building Plot Adjoining 16 Moden Hill, Sedgley

A delightfully positioned plot with full planning permission granted for the construction of a well designed detached family home which will enjoy stunning and far reaching views across miles of open countryside and providing excellent accommodation over ground and first floors. WOMBOURNE OFFICE.

Guide Price £150,000



26 Jenks Road, Wombourne

26 Jenks Road is an extended three bedroom end terrace property. Internally the living accommodation comprises hall, guest cloaks, lounge, breakfast kitchen, separate utility, three good size bedrooms and bathroom. There is a paved foregarden and good size garden to the rear. (EPC: D) WOMBOURNE OFFICE.

Guide Price £150,000



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SEDGLEY, Sunningdale Road, Northway
ENVIABLY SITUATED with PANORAMIC DISTANT VIEWS - Gas centrally heated, primarily double glazed, EXTENDED detached family home comprising hall, cloakroom, large living/dining room with doors through to garden room, inner study/breakfast room and spacious kitchen beyond. THREE DOUBLE BEDROOMS, bathroom with 'heritage' fitted suite, garage, drive, delightful garden backing onto open fields. EPC: D. SEDGLEY



DUDLEY, Wistmans Close, Milking Bank
Situated at head of cul-de-sac; a gas centrally heated UPVC DOUBLE GLAZED detached family home comprising: reception hall, lounge, dining room with patio doors, good sized kitchen, pantry, utility room, fitted cloaks. FOUR bedrooms (principle bedroom with shower room en suite), bathroom, garage, block paved fore garden, secluded rear garden. EPC D.SEDGLEY.



Wall Heath, Foundry Road
Superbly located just a short walk from the heart of Wall Heath Village, this DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE offers a spacious THREE BEDROOMS layout which requires some updating, plus DRIVEWAY, GARAGE and landscaped low maintenance rear garden. EPC TBA

Offers in the region of £239,950

Offers in the region of £239,950

£209,950



KINGSWINFORD, Stream Road
A HIGHLY INDIVIDUAL DOUBLE FRONTED DETACHED FAMILY HOME with a LARGE INDOOR HEATED SWIMMING POOL COMPLEX. Set beyond the VERY LARGE & RECENT BLOCK PAVED DRIVEWAY with ELECTRIC GATES, well placed within this desirable location, providing BEAUTIFULLY REAPPOINTED and GENEROUS ACCOMMODATION, plus a GARAGE with office above and a BEAUTIFULLY SECLUDED REAR GARDENS. EPC D



KINGSWINFORD, Kingston Way
Superbly located upon prestigious 'Valleyfields', this EXTENDED, GREATLY ENLARGED & IMPROVED SEMI-DETACHED BUNGALOW offers a very generous THREE BEDROOM layout, plus a BLOCK PAVED DRIVEWAY, GARAGE and a pleasant, level rear garden. EPC D



SEDGLEY, Dormston Drive
Situated within walking distance of Bull Ring; a gas radiator centrally heated, UPVC double glazed detached comprising: hallway, cloaks, 24'5" through living/dining room, kitchen, Three bedrooms, bathroom, block paving, garden. EPC: D SEDGLEY

£445,000

£189,950

Offers in the region of £162,950



TIPTON, Wrens Avenue
Conscientiously maintained, Freehold, gas centrally heated, double glazed semi detached of character comprising: porch, reception hall, sitting room, dining room, kitchen, pantry, Three bedrooms, bathroom. Garage, garden. EPC: D.SEDGLEY



SEDGLEY, WOODSETTON, Roper Way
Stylish, gas centrally heated, double glazed semi detached comprising: entrance hallway, 16'10" lounge, understairs store, REFITTED Kitchen. Two bedrooms, bathroom (heated floor). 17'3" x 10'1" garage, garden. EPC: D, SEDGLEY



RUSSELLS HALL, Eagle Close
EXTENDED, THREE / FOUR BEDROOM, SEMI DETACHED HOME, comprising: Hall, Lounge, Further Sitting Room, Reception Room 3 / Bedroom 4, Ground Floor Shower Room, Kitchen, Utility, Guests W.C, Three First Floor Bedrooms, First Floor Shower Room, Driveway, Garden. EPC C



COSELEY, Keats Drive
Freehold, gas centrally heated, DOUBLE GLAZED semi detached with DOUBLE GARAGE set in quiet backwater just off Siddons Road. Accommodation comprises: hall, lounge, kitchen with integrated appliances, pantry, dining room, three bedrooms, bathroom, toilet, driveway, garage, garden. EPC: D SEDGLEY



PENSNETT, Bell Street
This THREE BEDROOM, END TERRACE HOME is 'for sale' with NO UPWARD CHAIN, and FEATURES A FANTASTIC, WELL FITTED KITCHEN. Comprising: Reception Hall, Attractive Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, THREE BEDROOMS, Bathroom and Pretty Rear Garden. EPC E

Offers in the region of £141,950

Offers in the region of £130,000

New price £129,950

Offers in the region of £122,950

£119,950



WOODSETTON, Brook Street
Mid terrace for improvement with remarkable potential- surprisingly spacious accommodation provides: hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, bathroom, 3 first floor bedrooms, steps to attic - garden. EPC: E. SEDGLEY



COSELEY, Hospital Lane
EXTENDED gas centrally heated uPVC double glazed semi detached for improvement: hall, lounge, dining room, pantry, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom. Off road parking to front and comparatively lengthy garden. Mining History available. EPC: D SEDGLEY



LOWER GORNAL, Turners Grove
Gas centrally heated semi detached in need of modernisation occupying wider than average plot (with potential) comprising: hall, lounge, kitchen, dining room, lobby, store, three bedrooms, bathroom. Gardens, brick/timber 'work room'. EPC: D. SEDGLEY



NETHERTON, Windmill End
Situated within this popular address, this WELL PRESENTED, TWO BEDROOM HOME, would be the ideal FIRST TIME BUY and briefly comprises: Porch, Pleasant Lounge, Kitchen, Delightful Conservatory, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Driveway and Garden. EPC C



Brierley Hill, Columbus Avenue
SPACIOUS, BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED, TWO BEDROOM SECOND FLOOR FLAT, CONVENIENTLY SITUATED and comprising: communal entrance, hall, open plan lounge with MODERN kitchen, two bedrooms (master with en-suite), bathroom, communal grounds and allocated parking. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC C

Offers in the Region of £99,950

Offers in the region of £99,950

Offers in the region of £98,000

£92,000

£89,950



LOWER GORNAL, Summit Place
ABSOLUTELY OUTSTANDING, Freehold, gas centrally heated, double glazed detached bungalow that has been "transformed" in recent years and comprises; reception hall (incorporating a former living room), enlarged principal bedroom, double bedroom, shower room, refitted kitchen, utility room, conservatory. Gardens & parking. EPC:D. SEDGLEY



LOWER GORNAL, Flavells Lane
FLEXIBLE ACCOMMODATION ! - gas centrally heated uPVC double glazed detached; porch hall lounge, sitting room dining room kitchen,shower room porch.To first floor are 2 double bedrooms; 27 ft car port,delightful garden EPC:D SEDGLEY



SEDGLEY, South View Road, Northway
SPECTACULAR KITCHEN! Personal inspection imperative to appreciate kitchen. Gas centrally heated & double glazed accommodation includes porch, hall, dining room, lounge, three beds.bathroom, garden, parking. EPC: D.SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £199,950

Offers in the region of £184,950

Offers in the region of £180,000



SEDGLEY, Porthkerry Grove, Brownswall Estate
Conscientiously maintained, freehold, gas centrally heated & primarily double glazed semi detached with potential set in short favoured cul-de-sac comprising: porch, reception hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, lobby, store, Three generous bedrooms (possibilities of enlarging third bedroom into eaves?) bathroom, garage, sheltered rear garden. EPC: D. SEDGLEY



UPPER GORNAL, Goodrich Mews, 'Hedgerows'
Covered by remainder of NHBC guarantee. SPACIOUS, gas centrally heated & double glazed semi detached comprising: hall, cloakroom, through lounge, REFITTED dining kitchen, Three bedrooms, bathroom with white suite. Neat garden & GARAGE together with further parking to rear. EPC: B. SEDGLEY



GORNAL WOOD, Himley Road
Tremendous potential! Gas centrally heated & uPVC/ aluminium double glazed semi detached with porch, hall, lounge, pantry, dining room, kitchen with replacement units, three bedrooms, bathroom, garage, garden. EPC E SEDGLEY



LOWER GORNAL/PENSNETT, Snowberry Drive, 'Badgers Rise'
RARE OPPORTUNITY! Freehold, gas centrally heated, double glazed semi detached bungalow upon favoured development comprising: hall, cloakroom, lounge, kitchen, inner hallway Two bedrooms, Lengthy driveway, garage, garden. EPC: D. SEDGLEY



WOODSETTON, Parkes Lane
EXTENDED, gas centrally heated, double glazed semi detached comprising: hallway, lounge, dining room, kitchen, Three bedrooms, bathroom, Garage (sub-divided to form store & utility room with toilet off). Garden. EPC: D. SEDGLEY

Offers in the region of £160,000

Offers in the region of £159,950

Offers in the region of £159,950

Offers in the region of £156,450

Offers in the region of £145,950



PENSNETT, Clyde Mews
Conveniently situated within this admired address, this MOST APPEALING, THREE BEDROOM, SEMI DETACHED HOME, briefly comprises: Hall, Sitting Room, Dining Room, Kitchen, Three First Floor Bedrooms, Bathroom and Rear Garden. NO UPWARD CHAIN! EPC E



LOWER GORNAL, Lake Street
A spacious, gas centrally heated, part uPVC double glazed end terrace with potential - advantage of GATED PARKING comprising: living room, cellar, dining room, upgraded kitchen. Two double bedrooms, bathroom with white suite Garden. EPC F. SEDGLEY



QUARRY BANK, Turner Drive
Enjoying a pleasant position within this popular location, this WELL PRESENTED AND EXPENSIVELY APPOINTED, TWO BEDROOM HOME, briefly comprises: Porch, Kitchen, Sitting Room, Delightful Conservatory, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom and Rear Garden. EPC D



UPPER GORNAL, Tenacre Lane
Modernised, conscientiously maintained, gas centrally heated, double glazed,well insulated semi detached offering further potential comprising: hall, lounge, kitchen, pantry, dining room. Three bedrooms, bathroom, separate toilet, Off road parking (kerb dropped), gardens. EPC: C. SEDGLEY



PENSNETT, Redfly Lane
This DELIGHTFULLY MODERNISED AND COMPREHENSIVELY REFURBISHED, TWO BEDROOM, SEMI DETACHED HOME would be the IDEAL FIRST TIME BUY and comprises: Porch, Hall, Sitting Room, Dining Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom and Garden. NO UPWARD CHAIN! EPC

£109,950

Offers in the region of £109,950

£108,950

New price WAS £110,000, NOW £106,950

£102,950



UPPER GORNAL, Hilary Crest
GROUND FLOOR, gas centrally heated ,Upvc double glazed Flat with PANORAMIC DISTANT VIEWS comprising: reception hall, two double bedrooms, lounge, shower room, store, kitchen with 'beech' effect units. Allocated garden, two stores. EPC: C. SEDGLEY



QUARRY BANK, Birch Avenue
SEMI DETACHED HOME for sale with NO UPWARD CHAIN! Requiring refurbishment and offering a fantastic opportunity to INVEST or to create a desirable home. Comprises: Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Bathroom, Guests W/C, TWO / THREE Bedrooms, Garden. EPC E



Upper Gornal, Rock Street
STYLISH 1st floor uPVC double glazed flat close to amenities; 207 Hall, 17'1" lounge, refitted kitchen with 'high gloss white' units & int appliances 2 double bedrooms(one with wardrobes) reapt bathroom with white suite,EPC D .SEDGLEY



PENSNETT, Church Street
This TWO BEDROOM, SEMI DETACHED HOME has the potential to create the ideal first home or alternatively offers a FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY TO INVEST! To comprise: Sitting Room, Dining Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Shower Room, Rear Garden. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC:



PUBLIC NOTICE, 9, Braemar Close, Northway, SEDGLEY, Dudley, DY3 3XP
By order of the Mortgagee in possession we would advise you an offer has been made for the above property in the sum of One Hundred Thousand Pounds (£100,000.00). Any person wishing to increase on this offer should notify selling agents of their best offer either prior to exchange or within the next 7 days whichever is sooner.Taylors, 2a Dudley Street, Sedgley,DY3 1SB.

Offers in the region of £85,950

£82,000

Offers in the Region of £74,950

£65,000



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KINGSWINFORD



NEW

MOUNT PLEASANT

FOR SALE £225,000
Extended Semi Detached House with Hall, Refitted Kitchen, Study/Dining Room, Lounge, Conservatory, Play Room, Ground Floor WC, Three Bedrooms, Refitted Bathroom, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Off Road Parking.

BRIERLEY HILL



NEW

FOXDALE DRIVE

FOR SALE £64,950
Purpose Built Second Floor Flat with NO UPWARD CHAIN, Ideal First Time Purchase comprising of: Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Refitted Bathroom. Benefits include: Off Road Parking, Communal Grounds.

BRIERLEY HILL



DADFORD VIEW

FOR SALE £64,995
Well Presented Ground Floor Flat with NO UPWARD CHAIN comprising of: Lounge/Kitchen, Bedroom, Bathroom with shower. Benefits include: Allocated Parking, Front Garden, Electric Heating, Double Glazing.

BROCKMOOR



HIGH STREET

FOR SALE £112,500
EXTENDED semi detached property includes Entry Porch, Dining Hall, Lounge/Diner, Refitted Kitchen, Conservatory, Two DOUBLE Bedrooms, Refitted Bathroom. Benefiting from: Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, and Front & Rear Gardens.

KINGSWINFORD



MOSS GROVE

FOR SALE £174,995
Detached Property. To Include: Entrance Hall, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen, Morning Room, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom. Benefits include: Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Driveway, Garage and well maintained Front & Rear Gardens.

TIPTON



NIGHTINGALE DRIVE

FOR SALE £59,995
First Floor purpose built Flat. Accommodation comprises of: Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom. Offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN, benefits include: Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing and Off Road Parking.

BRIERLEY HILL



WILLIAM STREET

FOR SALE £97,500
End Terrace Property in Good Internal Decorative Order. Comprising of: Two Reception Rooms, Ground Floor WC, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom. Benefits include: Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, and Rear Garden.

BRIERLEY HILL



MADISON AVENUE

FOR SALE £149,950
Refurbished Town House. Comprising of: Entrance Hall, Ground Floor WC, Office, Kitchen, Lounge, Three Bedrooms, En Suite Shower, Family Bathroom. Benefits include: Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Off Road Parking, Rear Garden.

KINGSWINFORD



NEW

SUMMER STREET

£750 pcm*
Semi-Detached House, Lounge/Diner, Dining Room, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Off Road Parking, Front & Rear Gardens, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Unfurnished

KINGSWINFORD



NEW

MOSS GROVE

£675 pcm*
Detached House, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Additional Reception/4th Bedroom, Three First Floor Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Parking for 2/3 cars, Front & Rear Gardens

QUARRY BANK



NEW

NEW STREET

£435 pcm*
Mid Terrace House, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, TWO BEDROOMS, Bathroom with shower, Off Road Parking, Courtyard to Rear, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, UNFURNISHED

WOLLESCOTE



NEW

WYNALL LANE

£575 pcm*
Semi-Detached House, Entrance Hall, Lounge/Diner, Extended Kitchen, Utility, TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS, Bathroom with shower, Off Road Parking for 2/3 cars, Gardens to Front & Rear, Gas Central Heating, UNFURNISHED

KINGSWINFORD



NEW

VERONICA ROAD

£750 pcm*
Detached House, Entrance, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility, Downstairs Cloakroom, THREE BEDROOMS, Bathroom, Single Garage, Off Road Parking, Gardens to Front & Rear, Part Furnished, NO DSS & NO PETS

KINGSWINFORD



BLENHHEIM ROAD

£695 pcm*
Semi-Detached House, Entrance, Lounge, Kitchen, Bathroom with shower, Three Bedrooms, Off Road Parking, Gardens to Front & Rear, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, UNFURNISHED

NORTON



THE BROADWAY

£495 pcm*
Large First Floor Flat, Entrance, Good Sized Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage, Off Road Parking, Courtyard to Rear, Gas Central Heating, UNFURNISHED, NO PETS, DSS CONSIDERED

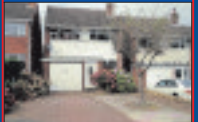
BRIERLEY HILL



BENT STREET

£575 pcm*
Large Victorian Terrace House, Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility, Store Room, THREE BEDROOMS, Bathroom with shower, Gardens to Front & Rear, UNFURNISHED

SEDGLEY



HAMILTON CLOSE

£695 pcm*
Detached House, Entrance, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Single Garage, Off Road Parking, Gardens to Front & Rear, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing.

GORNAL



BARR STREET

£545 pcm*
End Terrace Property, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Rear Garden, Unfurnished, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating

KINGSWINFORD



LABURNUM ROAD

£435 pcm*
Ground Floor Flat, Lounge, Kitchen, One Bedroom, Bathroom, Off Road Parking, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating

LYE



LOVE LANE

£395 pcm*
Top Floor Flat, Entrance, Lounge, Kitchen, Bedroom, Bathroom with shower, Allocated Parking, Communal Grounds, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, UNFURNISHED.

DUDLEY



RUSSELLS HALL ROAD

£550 pcm*
Fully Refurbished Semi-Detached House, Entrance, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Front & Rear Gardens, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, UNFURNISHED

PENSNETT



ELGAR CRESCENT

£750 pcm*
Detached House, Entrance Hall, Downstairs Cloakroom, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Utility, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with shower, Garage, Off Road Parking, Gardens to Front & Rear, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, UNFURNISHED

GORNAL



TEMPLE STREET

£525 pcm*
Mid Terrace House, Good Sized Living Room, Kitchen, TWO BEDROOMS, Bathroom, Garden to Rear, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, UNFURNISHED

GORNAL



EVE LANE

£620 pcm*
Semi Detached Property, Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Unfurnished, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Front & Rear Gardens, Garage

PROPERTY

Extended family home near centre of Sedgley



AN extended three-bed traditional-style detached house in Claremont Road, Sedgley, has well proportioned accommodation, including a ground floor shower room.

Being only a short walk into Sedgley town centre and close to greenbelt countryside, there is a wide range of amenities nearby. It is for sale through Scriven & Co at £199,950 with no chain. It has a porch, entrance hall, two living rooms, an extended kitchen, a rear lobby, shower room, three bedrooms, a bathroom and parking.

For further details call 0121 4224011 or visit www.scriven.co.uk



First floor flat is ideal for first time buyers



THIS is a very well presented first floor flat in Hill Street, Dudley, that could be ideal for a first time buyer.

It is for sale through Select Property Management at £73,950 with no chain. With no maintenance fees or service charge payable, it has double glazing and gas central heating, a garden and off road parking it includes an entrance hall, living room with a fireplace with an electric fire, a kitchen with a boiler, built in cooker and electric hob with extractor over, a bedroom and a bathroom with a built-in wardrobe.

For further information call 01384 277701 or visit the www.selectsalesandlettings.com website.



(Administration/application fees will apply)

**Main Office: Select House 120 High Street, Amblecote DY8 4DA
60a Manor Park, Kingswinford, West Midlands DY6 8AG**

www.selectsalesandlettings.com

NO LET
NO FEE

NO SALE
NO FEE

Market growth set to continue

The West Midlands experienced a buoyant period of growth in 2014, resulting in renewed activity in the commercial property market – and that looks set to continue in 2015.

Black Country-based commercial property group London & Cambridge Properties (LCP) saw a 25 per cent increase in enquiries, and more than 700,000 sq ft of industrial property let in the West Midlands alone.

Andrew Preston, industrial property manager at LCP, which has its headquarters on The Pensnett Estate in Kingswinford, said its policy to continue investing in its properties during the downturn had paid off because it was ready to act quickly when the market turned a corner.

This positive approach by LCP, one of the country's leading privately owned investment and property management companies with more than 30 years' experience, has produced an average occupancy level of 91 per cent – not bad for a company whose portfolio amounts to about 15 million sq ft.

"We have seen a tangible growth in confidence in many industrial and manufacturing sectors in the West Midlands, which has led to firms relocating to the region or existing companies here taking on more space," he said.

Strong demand for the high quality industrial and warehouse properties that LCP owns and manages has led to full occupancy at Parkway Business Park in Wednesbury, Park Lane, in Oldbury, and Charles Street, West Bromwich.

Trade has also been active at other sites in the Black Country, with just one unit remaining



LCP's Pensnett Estate in Kingswinford

at the Stourbridge Estate; Dunstall Hill, Wolverhampton; Springfield, Oldbury; The Woods Bank Estate, and Bescot Estate in Wednesbury.

Development

Anticipating a lack of quality commercial property LCP completed its first speculative build for some years in 2014. Progress Point at the Pensnett Estate, Kingswinford is a 21,000 sq ft development of high-spec industrial and warehouse units starting from 1,500 sq ft and are ready for occupation. The development has attracted interest from a wide range of businesses with one unit already under offer.

It's not just large businesses that LCP help; it



Andrew Preston of LCP

is also committed to finding small premises for companies looking for a few hundred square feet.

At Pensnett Estate, LCP welcomed three SMEs: FAS Window Films took on a 375 sq ft unit, while mobile access equipment company Mech-Serv (GB) Ltd leased a small storage space. Parcel delivery owner Elaine Tomlin also took on a 1,290 sq ft hub when she needed to relocate.

"It's important for us to be able to accommodate a range of businesses because not everyone needs 20,000 sq ft," says Andrew.

"By ensuring we have small and flexible spaces, we can find units for a wider spectrum of the business community."



Unit 1 at Parkway Business Park in Wednesbury, a site that is now fully let



Prestigious new build development – Progress Point at Pensnett Estate

Prestigious new build development

TO LET

Progress Point

The Pensnett Estate, Kingswinford,
West Midlands. DY6 7PP
www.progresspoint.co.uk



Warehouse/Industrial Units

From 1,500 sq.ft (139 sq.m)

- Wide range of sizes available
- 24 Hour Estate CCTV Security
- Ample Free Parking



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www.lcpproperties.co.uk

The LEE, SHAW Partnership

3 Sales Offices

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Hagley
01562 888111

Stourbridge
01384 396066



Prestwood 5 Wicket Lane, The Oval
£259,950 Kingswinford Office
| Detached Bungalow (for over 55 age group)
| Lounge, Conservatory, 2 Bedrooms
| R/F Break-Kitchen & Shower Room. EPC - C



Netherton 96a Church Road
£254,950 Kingswinford Office
| 4 Bedroom Detached Family Home
| Lounge, Dining Room, Break-Kitchen
| En-Suite, Bathroom, Double Garage EPC - D



Dudley 48 Gervase Drive
£249,950 Kingswinford Office
| 3 Bedroom Detached, large Garden
| Lounge/Diner, R/F Break Kitchen, Utility
| Bathroom. Close to College EPC - E



Dudley 17 Wistmans Close
£239,950 Kingswinford Office
| 4 Bedroom Detached with Conservatory
| 2 Rec Rooms, Refitted Kitchen & Utility
| Refitted Guest wc & Bathroom. EPC - D



Kingswinford 4 New Street
£225,000 Kingswinford Office
| 4 Bedroom Family Detached
| 2 Rec Rooms, Kitchen & Utility
| En-Suite & Bathroom. EPC - C



Wordsley 36 Lawnswood Road
£199,950 Kingswinford Office
| Re-appointed 3 Bedroom Detached
| Wc, Lounge, R/F Dining Kitchen, Utility
| R/F Bathroom, Block Paved Drive. EPC - D



Pensnett 38 Fernhurst Drive
£197,950 Kingswinford Office
| 4 Bedroom Family Detached
| Guest wc, 2 Rec Rooms, R/F Kitchen
| En-Suite & Bathroom. Must See. EPC - C



Dudley 59 Balmoral View
£195,000 Kingswinford Office
| Extended 3 Bedroom Link Detached
| Lounge, Dining Kitchen, G/F Bathroom
| Conservatory, R/F Shower Room. EPC - C



Kingswinford 88 Market Street
£139,950 Kingswinford Office
| Attractive, Improved 2 Bedroom Terrace
| 2 Rec Rooms, Cellar, Shaker style Kitchen
| G/F Bathroom, Large Garden EPC - C



Kingswinford 39 Surrey Drive
£134,950 Kingswinford Office
| Improved & Re-appointed End of Terrace
| Cul-de-sac, Lounge, R/F Dining/Kitchen
| 2 Bedrooms, R/F Bathroom. EPC - D

The LEE, SHAW Partnership

3 Lettings Offices

Kingswinford
01384 403131

Hagley
01562 888333

Stourbridge
01384 440555



Hagley 43 Chestnut Drive
| Mid-town House, 3 Beds
| Lounge, Kitchen & Bathroom
| Prime Cul-de-sac Location
| Deposit £850 (EPC - B)

£795
PCM



Wall Heath 6 Brooklyn Grove
| Traditional Semi-Detached House
| Brand New Fitted Kitchen
| 3 Beds, Driveway, Garage
| Deposit £800 (EPC - C)

£695
PCM



Kingswinford 74 Standhills Road
| Traditional Semi-Detached House
| Driveway For Several Cars
| 2 Double Bedrooms, Alarmed
| Deposit £700 (EPC - D)

£650
PCM



Norton 57 The Broadway
| 3 Bed Semi-Detached Bungalow
| Substantial Off Road Parking
| Rear Lounge, Kitchen
| Deposit £700 (EPC - D)

£650
PCM



Brierley Hill 7D Acres Road
| Detached Modern Bungalow
| 2 Beds, Lounge & Kitchen
| Garden & Driveway
| Deposit £800 (EPC - C)

£600
PCM



Colley Gate 71 Two Gates Lane
| Modern 3 Bed Semi-Detached
| Off Road Parking, Garage
| Rear Garden With Patio Area
| Deposit £700 (EPC - D)

£575
PCM



Pensnett 38 Hodnet Drive
| Modern 2 Bed Town House
| Rear Garden With Patio Area
| Cul-de-sac Position
| Deposit £650 (EPC - C)

£525
PCM



Stourbridge 6 Church Court
| Modern 2nd Floor Apartment
| 2 Bedrooms & Bathroom
| Newly Fitted Kitchen & Lounge
| Deposit £575 (EPC - C)

£525
PCM



Kingswinford Flat 1 Hayley Court
| Mod 1 Bed Ground Floor Apt.
| 2 Allocated Car Parking Spaces
| Lounge, Kitchen, Bathroom
| Deposit £600 (EPC - C)

£475
PCM



Kingswinford 15 Grant Close
| Modern 1 Bed 1st Floor Flat
| Close To Local Amenities
| Bathroom With Shower Cubicle
| Deposit £500 (EPC - D)

£430
PCM

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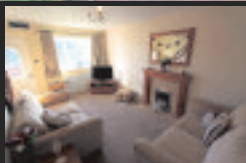
EPC TBC



NEW

SEDGLEY BRITANIA GREEN

- Delightful Mid Town House Property
- Quietly Positioned in Popular Area
- Two Bedrooms
- Living Room, Fitted Dining Kitchen
- Modernised Bathroom
- Allocated Parking for 2 Vehicles
- Central Heating, Double Glazing
- Extremely Well Presented
- Viewing Highly Recommended



£119,950

EPC TBC



NEW

SEDGLEY BIRCH ROAD

- End Town House Property
- Deceptively Spacious
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Living Room, Dining Kitchen
- Office, Downstairs WC
- Stylish Bathroom
- Central Heating, Double Glazing
- Ample Off Road Parking
- Viewing Highly Recommended



£116,950

EPC TBC



WOODSETTON PARKES HALL ROAD

- FOR SALE BY AUCTION
- Detached Family Home
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms



NEW

- Central Heating
- Kitchen and Bathroom
- Private Rear Garden
- Off Road Parking

£99,995

EPC TBC



THE GREENS ELM GREEN

- Spacious Family Residence
- Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Well Maintained Home
- Lounge



NEW

- Dining Kitchen
- Utility Area, Downstairs WC
- First Floor Bathroom
- Central Heating, Double Glazing

£114,950

EPC B



SEDGLEY TIPTON ROAD

- Maisonette First Floor Flat
- Well Maintained Home
- One Bedroom
- Lounge



NEW

- Fitted Kitchen
- Bathroom With 'White' Suite
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Central Heating

£66,500

EPC C



WOMBOURNE BULL LANE

- Recently Refurbished Throughout
- Immaculate Family Home
- Three Bedrooms
- Occupying A Corner Position
- End Terraced • Three Bedrooms



NEW

- Stylish Fitted Kitchen
- Modern Bathroom Plus Downstairs WC
- Central Heating And Double Glazing
- Off Road Parking

£165,000

EPC TBC



DUDLEY OAK STREET

- Detached Family Residence
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms plus Conservatory
- Downstairs WC, Fitted Kitchen



NEW

- Useful Work Shop plus Garage
- Private Rear Garden
- Off Road Parking
- Central Heating, Double Glazing

£159,950

EPC D



GORNAL HOPVARD LANE

- Substantial Detached Property
- Fitted Kitchen
- 15ft Sitting Room
- Three Double Bedrooms



NEW

- 24ft Lounge Dining
- Downstairs WC
- Spacious Bathroom
- Tandem Garage

£174,950

EPC D



SEDGLEY THE PRIORY

- Spacious Mid Town House
- Three Bedrooms
- Three Storey Accommodation
- Lounge Diner, Sitting Room



NEW

- Stylish Dining Kitchen, Laundrette
- Modern Bathroom
- Central Heating, Double Glazing
- Garage, Off Road Parking

£179,950

EPC C



WHITESMITHS CLOSE SEDGLEY

- First Floor Flat
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Living Room with Balcony off
- Fitted Kitchen



NEW

- Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Allocated Parking
- RETIREMENT DEVELOPMENT FOR THE OVER 55's

£106,950

EPC D



COSELEY CROWSBRIDGE MEWS

- Detached Family Residence
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge Diner plus Conservatory
- Office • Kitchen plus Laundrette



NEW

- Family Bathroom plus Ensuite
- Central Heating, Double Glazing
- Ample Off Road Parking
- Private Rear Garden

£189,950

EPC D



LOWER GORNAL LOUISE STREET

- DETACHED Family Home • Three Bedrooms
- Living Room plus Dining Area • Fitted Kitchen
- Downstairs WC • Shower Room
- Garage with Utility Area • Fully Private Rear



LOWER GORNAL AUTUMN DRIVE

- Semi-Detached Property • Three Bedrooms
- 21ft Lounge Diner • Fitted Kitchen
- First Floor Bathroom • Private Rear Garden
- Central Heating • Double Glazing

£124,950

EPC E



SEDGLEY SANDYFIELDS ROAD

- Distinctive Three Bedroom Detached Bungalow
- Off Road Parking • Garage
- Front, Side and Rear Gardens
- Fantastic Open Views • NO UPWARD CHAIN

£224,950



SEDGLEY DUDLEY ROAD

- Impressive Detached Family Residence
- Three Double Bedrooms • Elegant Living Room
- Extensive Dining Kitchen • Useful Laundrette
- Downstairs WC • First Floor Bathroom

£270,000

EPC D



UPPER GORNAL EVE LANE

- Well Presented • Semi-Detached
- Three Bedrooms • 22ft Lounge Diner
- Stylish Kitchen • Off Road Parking & Garage
- Bathroom with Bath & Shower Cubicle

£119,950



UPPER GORNAL SOUTH OVAL

- Semi-Detached Property • Three Bedrooms
- 23ft Living Room • Stylish Fitted Kitchen
- First Floor Bathroom • Pleasant Rear Garden
- Off Road Parking • No Upward Chain

£116,950

EPC E



LOWER GORNAL BARR STREET

- Mid Terraced Property • Spacious Accommodation
- Two Bedrooms • Two Reception Rooms
- Breakfast Room • Fitted Kitchen
- First Floor Bathroom • Central Heating, Double

£100,000



ETTINGSHALL PARK FARM LANE

- Link-Detached Residence • Three Bedrooms
- Living Room • Kitchen with Dining Area Off
- Garage/Storage Room • Off Road Parking
- Central Heating • Double Glazing (where specified)

£139,950

EPC D



TIPTON WAKE GREEN ROAD

- Spacious Semi-Detached Family House
- Three Bedrooms • Lounge • Conservatory
- Fitted Dining Kitchen plus Utility Area
- First Floor Bathroom • Off Road Parking

£159,950



UPPER GORNAL EDMUND ROAD

- Spacious Semi-Detached Home
- Two Bedrooms • Living Room
- Fitted Dining Kitchen • Off Road Parking
- First Floor Modern Bathroom

£96,000

EPC D



COSELEY FLAXEN FIELD

- Luxury NEW Town Houses • Living Room
- Fitted Dining Kitchen • Ensuite Shower Room
- 3 Bedrooms (2 on First Floor, 1 on Second Floor)
- Downstairs WC & First Floor Bathroom

£165,000



ASH GROVE GORNAL WOOD

- Modern Detached Bungalow
- Two/Three Bedrooms
- Living Room plus Conservatory
- Off Road Parking plus Garage

£215,000

Spot on hot sports coupe

By Graham Breeze

Any car company taking on the performance coupe market just has to get it right first time and Peugeot has done just that with the RCZ GT.

It's the hottest performer ever to break out of Peugeot garages and it has the looks, power and panache of any of the opposition in the performance coupe sector.

Peugeot bosses decided not to meddle too much with the looks of the RCZ which first appeared on our streets in 2009 which is why from the outside you only get a new two-part grill and redesigned claw-like headlights and a double bubble rear window and roof. Not that there's anything wrong with the appearance, the test car crouching purposely on 192 alloys with an active rear spoiler and twin sport exhausts.

The new RCZ is a match for the opposition in performance terms and inside the car demonstrates all the traits of a performance 2+2 sports coupe.

Heated sports front red and black leather seats adjust to give even the tallest front seat occupants a comfortable position and there's a stunning red carbon style dashboard, sports steering wheel and short shift gear lever.

You also get Peugeot Connect Navigation and CD systems and Peugeot Connect USB Box with Bluetooth.

It's a tight fit inside though and you really would not want to be seated in the back.

Any negativity about this car soon disappears once on the open road though. It's a dream to drive, sitting firmly through the tightest bends, with the 1.6 GT emitting a glorious roar when pushed. Steering feedback is glorious thanks to wider tyres and firmer springs and you have to take your hat off to Peugeot designers for providing this superb driving experience.



'The new Peugeot RCZ is without doubt a genuine competitor in the sports coupe sector.'

There's a price range from £22-£32,000 and the THP 200 on test would set you back £26,900 with metallic paint, Media Navigation, roof arches and Hi-Fi system adding another £2,200.

The test car had a top speed of 146mph and would reach 62mph in 7.6 seconds through a six speed manual box and although Peugeot claim combined fuel figures of 42.2mpg you won't get that if you drive the car the way I did for a week.

Boot space is limited as you would ex-

pect and there's no room for the golf clubs unless you fold the back seats flat.

On the plus side you can design your own model when buying through a wide range of personalisation options, including 10 alloy wheel designs and 12 interior trims.

The new RCZ gets a visibility pack consisting of automatic wipers and headlamps, electric interior mirror and guide-me-home lighting.

The new RCZ is without doubt a genuine competitor in the sports coupe sector.

Express & Star

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Supermini from the Griffin now looking good with new styling

By Ian Donaldson

Vauxhall has thoroughly revised its popular Corsa supermini, complete with cleaner, greener engines and a look influenced by the highly fashionable and innovative Adam.

The revisions to the Corsa are extensive, and while Vauxhall's engineers have retained the previous car's basic platform, much work has been done on the way the car drives as well as how it looks.

Visually the Corsa's been influenced by the funky Adam, while there's been an increased focus on boosting the green credentials of the car's engine range. And to improve the 'big car' feel, there's now a wealth of added value safety kit and creature comforts available.

It's hardly a surprise that the new Corsa looks a little bit like the Adam.

From the front at least, Vauxhall's mainstream supermini now boasts a little more individual character and is easier to spot in the supermarket car park. A big plus point when weighing up the pros and cons of deciding which car you buy.

And being Vauxhall's volume-selling car, it's got to perform for a wide variety of customers, be they private buyers or company car users.

Revised

As such, the major selling point is low running costs, thanks in part to new and revised engines, plus a greener approach to motoring.

In supermini terms the Corsa offers a good level of cabin space and practicality. It's available in three and five-door form, and there's ample boot space for a car of this size.

And for a car that has to work for a wide variety of users, cabin oddment storage space is more than enough for mobile phones, drinks, maps and the like. Once seen as frumpy storage is now a must for buyers.

Previously the Corsa was rarely top of any keen drivers' shopping lists, but Vauxhall's engineers have done a good job of closing the gap on the likes of the popular Ford's Fiesta.

A thorough overhaul of suspension and steering elements has resulted in a more engaging experience, while refinement and the ability to cope with poorly surfaced roads have also been greatly improved.

Vauxhall has also spent a lot of time improving the Corsa's engine range (essential to be competitive in this sector, with the result being a greater focus on economy and ease of driving).

Some existing units have been improved, such as the firm's 1.3-litre diesel units – now offering sub-100g/km CO2 figures.

There is also an all-new 1.0-litre, three-cylinder petrol motor that has been introduced in two states of tune: 90 and 115 horsepower.

The latter is pleasantly smooth and quiet, yet punches well above its weight performance-wise.

Heated

Vauxhall's not been shy in adding a considerable amount of kit to the car, with the highlights being a heated windscreen, the choice of heated seats and steering wheel.

Then you get an advanced safety kit and a high-end infotainment system previously only found on more expensive cars higher up the Vauxhall food chain.

Factor in the greener and more economical engines, plus the ability to save money at the pumps and reduce the amount you give to the taxman each year, and the Corsa's value-for-money status is pleasingly more attractive than before.

The Corsa has always appealed to a wide audience, and it's likely to be the same with this new model.

Private buyers form a significant proportion of the market and there's no shortage of choice when it comes to engine and trim combinations.

Offering both three and five-door body-styles does much to further boost its chances in a crowded market.

Vauxhall hasn't forgotten business users either.

Low CO2 rated engines and fleet-specific trim levels should make the business of buying company cars an easy one.

This car summed up in a single word: Dependable.

If this car was: An item clothing, it would be a comfortable pair of shoes.

TESTED

Vauxhall Corsa 1.0i Excite five-door £14,695

Engine: 1.0-litre petrol unit producing 115bhp and 122lb/ft of torque

Transmission: Six-speed manual driving the front wheels

Performance: Top speed 121mph, 0-62mph in 10.3 seconds

Economy: 57.6mpg combined

T Wall Ford USED CAR Deal

Big choice-Best prices

12 months Warranty and Breakdown Cover included

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63 REG NEW FIESTA

1.25 Zetec 5dr
• Red • 9,877mils CHOICE **£8,999**



08 Reg Peugeot 1.0 Kiss 3Dr
Black, 48800mils

£3,699



59 Reg Toyota 1.4 D4-D Diesel 5Dr
Rear sensor, Grey, 30107mils

£6,499



61 Reg Fiesta 1.25 Zetec 5Dr
Mid Sky 28927mils
WAS £7999

£7,499



14 Reg New Fiesta 1.6 ST2 3Dr
Style Pack, Red, 3041mils

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60 REG
AUDI A3
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Technik
Cabriolet

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		Was	Now
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57 Reg	Peu 207 Sw 1.6 Hdi Sw 207 Sport 110Ps Estate, Silver, 48900Mils		£5,499
12 Reg	Hyundai i10 Active, 5 Door, White, 19600Mils		£5,999
11 Reg	Toyota 1.0 Vrti Aygo Go 3Dr, White, 27500Mils		£5,599
61 Reg	Renault 1.2 Clio Dynamic 5Dr A/C Alloys, Black, 11991Mils		£6,499
63 Reg	Corsa 1.2 Limited, Low Miles, White, 6500Mils		£8,999
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58 Reg	Nissan Qashqai 1.5 Dci Accenta, Blue, 73000Mils		£6,999
12 Reg	Ka Digital 1.2 Digital, Grey, 101574Mils		£6,999
62 Reg	Ka 1.2 Grand Prix 2, Sunrise, 20617Mils	£7,499	£6,999
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Milestone show at NEC

By Tony Adams

The 2015 motorsport season is off to a flying start as stars, cars and action descended on Birmingham's NEC for a sell-out Autosport International Show.

Celebrating its 25th anniversary, Autosport is Europe's biggest dedicated motorsport show and attracted motoring fans of all ages and several celebrities including F1 star David Coulthard, World Endurance champion Anthony Davidson, Le Mans winner Alan McNish, World Rallycross champion Petter Solberg and British Touring Car champion Colin Turkington.

Midlands companies reported a suc-

cessful event with current touring car driver Matt Neal of West Bromwich-based Team Dynamics answering questions on the Rimstock Wheels stand, commenting: "Autosport at the NEC provided a great platform for the industry to kick the year off in style, with old and brand new cars and products alongside engineering expertise being showcased that we can truly boast about in the UK."

"We were delighted that high visitor numbers provided quality interest and potential future sales leads for Rimstock as an exhibitor."

Fantastic

Telford-based Cobra Seats was also displaying its products at the show and managing director Mark Dunsford said: "Autosport genuinely was a fantastic show and the best one we've done in the 15-plus years of exhibiting."

"We spent the Thursday and Friday trade days meeting well-established and new professional drivers, old friends, clients and generally networking, which itself proved very fruitful."

"We signed a good number of deals for professional drivers to use our seats in a wide range of disciplines, so we should have no less than 11 cars in the British Touring Cars Championship using Cobra Seats for 2015, including this year's championship winning team, West Surrey Racing with 2014 champion Colin Turkington."

"Then, at the weekend, we engaged with our public customer base old and new and spent valuable time showing them what we have developed at our Telford factory, and helping them with their specific needs for this year's events, ranging from grass roots



'We signed a good number of deals for professional drivers to use our seats'

stage and club rallying through to marine, speed and race events."

Various car clubs had stands with volunteer members on hand to offer advice and information on making the most of prized classic and sports cars. Pride of place in the Performance Car section went to Radio 2 DJ Chris Evans' La Ferrari, worth a cool £1.6 million, and Lewis Hamilton's F1 title-winning Mercedes AMG Petronas F1 car led the line-up on the F1 grid display.

Other trade stands encouraged visitor participation with several competitions for race driving game simulators and a timed F1-style wheel-change challenge.

Pictured above: Matt Neal (right) with colleague Justin Pugh on the Rimstock stand.

Pictured left: Tina Reeves, from Cobra Seats, with Aston Villa and Manchester United dug-out seats on the Cobra stand.

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Runners among medals at stadium

IT was a good weekend for athletes from Dudley Kingswinford Running Club as they were among the medals.

They were competing the Midland Masters Cross Country Championships at Aldersley Stadium.

In an event restricted to runners over 35 you'd expect the pace to be slower and the event to be less competitive than the normal Birmingham League but that was certainly not the case in a race full of quality.

The course was a mixture of ankle deep mud, rock hard icy patches and plenty in between with numerous twists and turns over the 8km distance.

In a race won by Mark Coudwell of Charnwood AC in 24.44 from Scott Hazel of Coventry Godiva in 24.55 and Stuart Hawkes of Amazing Feet in 25.14, James Wright was first back for the blue hoops in 28th place in 29.57 placing 5th in the M35 category.

Gary Bonner was 31st in 30.22 and 5th M50, Dave Norman was 35th in 31.09 and 9th M40, Graham Wildgoose was 45th in 33.27 an 9th M45 and John Andrews was 47th in 36.14 and 11th M40. The club took bronze.

Fears of £2m fraud at Blues

THE company that owns Birmingham City FC said it believes a former employee may have "misappropriated" £2.5m.

Birmingham International Holdings said it had reported the matter to the Hong Kong police.

The company said the loss "may have a material impact on the operation and financial situation of the group".

It was also concerned that the matter was apparently missed by auditors.

Shares in the Hong Kong-based company were suspended six weeks ago and will not resume trading until further notice.

BIH said it would consider setting up an investigation committee

Indoor matches bring up mixed results

THE indoor league run by the Worcestershire Cricket Board at Edgecliffe High School on Monday evenings began with something of a whimper.

Unfortunately the first match was a walkover as Lye could not raise a side. The points go to Pedmore.

Hagley (129-4) beat Enville B (50 all out) by 79 runs

Whereas Hagley came out with guns blazing, Enville B were caught cold. Hagley electing to bat hammered the Enville bowlers.

Paul Morgan (27no) and Craig Bray (33) were top scorers producing a daunting total

Cricket

which Enville never got within touching distance.

Paul Clarke (20) alone showed resistance to the inevitable which came as Enville were bowled out for 50, Craig Bray taking man of the match honours with 2 for 7.

Week two seemed as if the league had finally got off the launching pad with two well-contested and enjoyable matches.

Oldswinford (108-5) tied with Enville A (108-5)

Oldswinford elected to bat and with Lee Nightingale (47 no) and Harry Stanier (28) both retiring got off to a flying start.

Momentum slowed marginally down the order, until the pair were reunited for a final push. However in spite of the lively start Oldswinford had not put the game beyond reach.

Enville A suffered a setback losing their first wicket at 31 when Greg Tomkins and Matt Branch managed an unnecessary run-out.

Tom Bingham (30no) joined Matt Branch (30) and the required rate was steadily overhauled. Both retired and as the final

over arrived only seven runs were required with four wickets in hand. Three wickets fell, including the returning Matt Branch run-out on the last leaving the match tied.

Belbroughton (118-3) beat Swindon (97-3) by 21 runs

Some wayward Swindon bowling put little pressure on Matt Pardoe (25no) and Geoff Day (26no) and contributed generously in wides.

The first wicket was lost in the 10th over on 95 as Belbroughton pushed on for a winning total. Swindon suffered a reversal in their first over but Tod Henderson (43no) and Luke McDonald (25no) brought the

Needed victory eludes Glassboys

Stourbridge 1 Grantham 2

STOURBRIDGE slumped to defeat in a game they really needed to win.

There was a lack of quality from both teams , but all three goals were excellent.

The opener in this Evo-Stik Northern Premier match came in the first minute when the visitors' Paul Grimes tried a speculative shot from 25 yards which somehow eluded Dean Coleman's grasp.

Striker Luke Benbow looked lively for Stourbridge, seeing a shot well saved, but Gary Hackett's men were rocked when he withdrew injured on only seven minutes.

But Stourbridge equalised five minutes before the break through substitute Brian Smikle. Chris Knight sped down the left, crossed and Smikle's fine header did the rest.

Youngster Tyrone Williams, one of two new signings for Stourbridge, fired over the bar after the break.

There were few chances in the second half, but Grantham struck on 55 minutes when a pinpoint Danny Meadows free-kick saw Ben Saunders head home.

Stourbridge nearly levelled eight minutes from time.

Yeltz beat the chill to share the points

Marine 1 Halesowen 1

HALESOWEN got a decent point in very cold conditions on Merseyside against a team who beat them at The Grove over Christmas.

It was Halesowen who had the first chance, when a looping header from Joe Hull hit the bar and came back out to Ben Haseley, whose point-blank shot was well saved by Matt Cooper.

Marine came close on 10 minutes, as Lloyd Ellams claimed the ball in the box and blasted it at goal, but Matt Sargeant reacted brilliantly to the shot and deny them the lead and keep them off the scoreboard at least for now.

The Yeltz took the lead on 26 minutes through the hosts gifting them an own goal, as Haseley cut into the opposing penalty area and hit an aerial ball towards the back post then James Foley headed the ball into his own net.

Marine started the second half using a more attacking style, Andy Nicholas' header just ricocheting off the outside of the post, while Liam Blake's powerful shot also clipped the outside of the post but the equaliser eluded the home side.

It wasn't too long after though that they got the goal they were searching for on 70 minutes.

The score came from a long-range shot by Blake who hit the underside of the bar and, fortunately for the player, the ball bounced across the line to put the scores level.

There were no further goals which means the Yeltz stay 10th in the Evo-Stik Premier Division.

Tribute was a special moment, says Bath



Captain Danny Bath and academy player Caden Voice with a wreath to mark the death of Sir Jack Hayward

WOLVES captain Danny Bath said laying a wreath in memory of Sir Jack Hayward, before Saturday's emotional win over Blackpool, was a "special moment" for him.

The centre-back placed the flowers next to the goal at the former North Bank end of Molineux, accompanied by under-eights academy player Caden Voice, as Wolves paid tribute to their former owner.

And Bath said: "It was sad for everyone to lose someone like Sir Jack and I think the community of Wolverhampton came out in force to show what he meant. It was a great tribute from everyone before the game to mark a great man and all the service he has given both to the club and the community.

"It was a fitting tribute and just what he deserves and for me to lay the wreath was a special moment.

"That was a time when players and fans of both clubs put the football to one side for a minute and everyone paid their respects."

Late goals from Dave Edwards and new boy Benik Afobe ensured Wolves honoured Sir Jack's memory with a 2-0 win.

"We knew that Blackpool would come and set up like they did and make it difficult for us," said Bath.

"It is never easy to play a team down the bottom."

Boukari is hit by more injury woe

LUCKLESS Razak Boukari has suffered yet another injury blow - as Scott Golbourne returns to contention at Wolves.

The £2.5m winger has a groin strain and will be out for up to three weeks.

Boukari was due to make his comeback with Golbourne in today's visit of Brentford to Compton, postponed in any event due to a frozen pitch.

"Boukari has a groin strain which he did last Friday and will be out for two to three weeks," said head coach Kenny Jackett.

"He's picked up a lot of injuries. I haven't been able to give him a chance yet and would like to give him an opportunity. But keeping him fit has been tough."



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Whiley pulls in doubles trophy

HALESOWEN'S Jordanne Whiley has gained her first wheelchair tennis trophy of 2015.

She partnered Japan's Yui Kamiji to win finish runners-up in the women's doubles at the Sydney International Open, the first of six Super Series events.

The winners of all four Grand Slam doubles titles in 2014, Whiley and Kamiji dropped just one game en route to the final in Sydney before being edged out in three sets by Dutch duo Jiske Griffioen and Aniek van Koot.

Kamiji and Whiley beat Griffioen and van Koot in either a third and final set or a deciding championship tie-break in their finals at Roland Garros, Wimbledon and the US Open in New York last year.

Although Kamiji and Whiley took their opponents to a deciding one again, Griffioen and van Koot just had the edge this time and clinched a 6-4, 1-6, 6-4 victory as Whiley and Kamiji finished runners-up in Sydney for the second successive year.

The two partnerships could meet again at the Australian Open at Melbourne Park on 28 to 31 January.

"Obviously I am disappointed that we lost the final, neither Yui nor I played like we can."

Albion grab away point

Everton 0 Albion 0
THERE was nothing for Albion fans to get excited about at Goodison Park.

But there was something to celebrate as Tony Pulis's side claimed a very handy point from a tenacious display on Merseyside.

And while there was little to get the travelling fans off their seats, they could at least smile that - for once - the boot was on the other foot.

For this time it was friction in the opposition camp that made the headlines as Kevin Mirallas's missed penalty grabbed all the attention.

And for a change it was the opposing manager at odds with his fans as the home faithful turned on Roberto Martinez.

Those who follow the Baggies more closely will have been delighted at the spirit, organisation and discipline.

Old Hales dig deep to keep hold of win

**Old Halesonians 23
Peterborough Lions 16**

OLD Hales came into this game with an unconvincing win against Sutton last week when they failed to dominate.

Injuries to stalwart Tom Jordan and Nigel Burrows saw Loz Breese and Jay Martin completing the back row with player/coach Mark Evans.

This became a deciding factor in this game against a dominant forward display initially by the visitors. After seven minutes Hales showed immediate stability in the scrum with props Louis Padian, Rich Tay-

Rugby

lor and hooker Pete Fitzgerald providing a solid scrum for the backs to work from.

Immediate pressure from the Hales side led to a penalty on the visitors 22. Full back Chris Hooper took it quickly and fed to flanker Loz Breese for his first try of the game.

The next period of play saw the Lions fight back twice. Hales gave away two simple penalties which Carrington converted for the visitors.

Hales again came back with some excellent forwards and backs combinations. Scrum Half Nathan Jones and fly half Gareth Bown provided ample ball to the Hales backs. Hooper and Carl Robinson were always a threat and wing Warren Oliver making telling runs into the visiting defence.

On 20 minutes pressure forced a penalty which Hooper converted. After 27 minutes Peterborough were reduced to 14 men for foul play. Hales should have capitalised on this but the visitors stood strong.

Oliver collected a high kick on the half way line and set off on a run outside the op-

posite backs, he drew the last man and fed to supporting wing, Luke Smith who scored. Hooper missed the conversion. Lions came back but the home defence stood strong up until the 39th minute. The defence was beaten by forward pressure for a try by the visitors which was converted.

The second half saw the home side take control. A lapse in concentration on 47mins gifted another penalty to Peterborough to take the lead 13-16.

Breese then grabbed his second try.

Wing Smith added his second try in the corner. Hooper missed the conversion.

Tipton close to upset

Long Eaton 2 Tipton 1

TIPTON came close to producing an unlikely result as they ignored the length of the Midland League Premier Division table.

Leaders Long Eaton squeezed home 2-1 against the bottom-placed Black Country outfit, with a point-blank save by home keeper Cameron Mason denying Tipton's Simon Badianne a last-gasp equaliser.

Long Eaton took the lead in 20 minutes when Brad Wells guided home an inch perfect cross from TJ Nightingale.

Tipton rocked Long Eaton in the 57th minute, however, when Ben Hadley adroitly skipped through the home rearguard to plant the ball past a startled Mason and bring the sides level.

Long Eaton were then reduced to 10 men when Wells was shown his second yellow card, and Sean Pugh had a great opportunity to put the visitors in front, but turned his close-range effort over the bar.

Almost immediately Long Eaton restored their advantage, Kieran Wells this time on target.

Badianne came close to salvaging a precious point.

Cut mistakes, says Chambers

JAMES CHAMBERS says Walsall's Jekyll and Hyde form has to stop if they are to make their Wembley dream a reality.

The centre-half is gearing up for the Saddlers' Johnstone's Paint Trophy clash with Preston.

"At the moment we are not in the greatest form at home," said Chambers.

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NO END IN SIGHT FOR DK'S MISERY

DK 5 Bromsgrove 42

AFTER 47 minutes, DK forced a line-out deep inside the Bromsgrove 22.

A ball to the middle was expertly deflected into Kieran Pinche's hands by skipper Pete Knight. The ball flashed across the DK three quarter line and Liam Marshall beat his man leaving him with 10 metres to go, and with the Bromsgrove cover defence on hand.

However, it was not enough, because despite the attentions of two Bromsgrove defenders, Marshall powered to the line carrying them with him for the last few metres and taking the ball over for the only DK try of the match.

DK were on the scoreboard, and attacking again and the Bromsgrove No.4 was sent to the sin bin, for constantly offering the referee advice on what was happening.

Watershed

This proved to be a watershed for the DK squad where they should really have taken hold of the game.

However, instead of narrowing the gap while their opponent was down to 10 men, Bromsgrove eased away with the game to record a 42-5 victory over struggling DK club.

The pick of their second half tries came from their full back, who splintered the DK defence with an angled run, which showed the value of running back against the grain of the defence.

The Bromsgrove victory reflected the way that the game panned out particu-

Rugby

larly in the second half.

Although, the big difference between the sides was the ability to take advantage of field position.

In the first half DK had the run of the game, but Bromsgrove converted their two opportunities, into a 14-0 lead.

DK's difficulty is in putting points on the board which means the squad is constantly under pressure to get on the scoreboard which often forces the side into taking, the high risk option, which in turn has been known to put DK in trouble again.

T J Gordon, had a game that was worthy of a special mention both in defence and in attack with his excellent ball carrying.

Added to this DK's line out was more efficient than in recent weeks and gave a good platform from which to launch attacks or exit strategies when in defence even if they couldn't be converted into points.

With no game next week, the squad can prepare for the trip to Burton on January 31.



Liam Marshall powers forward on his way to scoring the only try for DK against Bromsgrove

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